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TECHNIQUE OF THE SAXOPHONE

cale Studies

arn Melody, Harmony, Rhythm, and Improvisation Techniques

Joseph Viola

VOLUME 1

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29-12-79

" THE TECHNIQUE OF THE SAXOPHONE "

" VOLUME I "

" *Scale Studies* "

" by "

" JOSEPH VIOLA "

" SUPERVISOR OF REED INSTRUCTION "

" BERKLEE COLLEGE OF MUSIC "

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" PREFACE "

There has long been an urgent need for practical study, method and exercise texts in the field of modern music education. The overwhelming response which greeted Berklee's publication of William Curtis' "A Modern Method for String Bass" vivified the need for similar books on other instruments..

In planning this text for saxophone — one man seemed to us the obvious choice to open the door and serve as guide.

Joe Viola has, for 15 years, been a vigorous and inspiring teacher at Berklee School of Music. As Supervisor of Woodwind Instruction, his admirable skill and the originality of his teaching approach have attracted students from all over the world. Over 500 of his students are currently active in the teaching profession, and with jazz groups, studio orchestras and America's top name bands.

This text represents a compilation and distillation of his personal teaching notes, culled from his academic life as a teacher as well as his professional life as a musician.

Lawrence Berk

LAWRENCE BERK, Executive Director
Berklee College of Music

FOREWORD

The purpose of this book is to build the musician's technical facility, to develop his ear and his mind — then to fuse all of these into the highest peak of artistic maturity . . . a peak which will provide him the basis for competent reading, musical understanding, dynamic and inventive improvisation.

It is our aim here to aid the musician in mastering intonation problems by giving him a thorough understanding of tonality. The player-student will understand the specific relation of the note he is playing to the notes around it — will have a complete knowledge of all major scales and related modes — will be able to perform any major scale beginning on any degree of the scale — will be conscious of scale degrees while practicing.

With these specific tools of performance, he will have a solid foundation for creativity and improvisation, he will express his musical ideas with confidence.

Joseph Viola

AUTHOR'S NOTES

In practicing these exercises, consider the following:

a. tempo — may be variable from exercise to exercise, but do not attempt to play any figure faster than you can execute it comfortably.

b. dynamics — try for eveness of volume between low and high registers in straight scale patterns but experiment with expressive dynamic variations in the melodic and rhythmic exercises.

c. intonation — listen for natural scale resolutions and try to hear each note in relation to the notes around it.

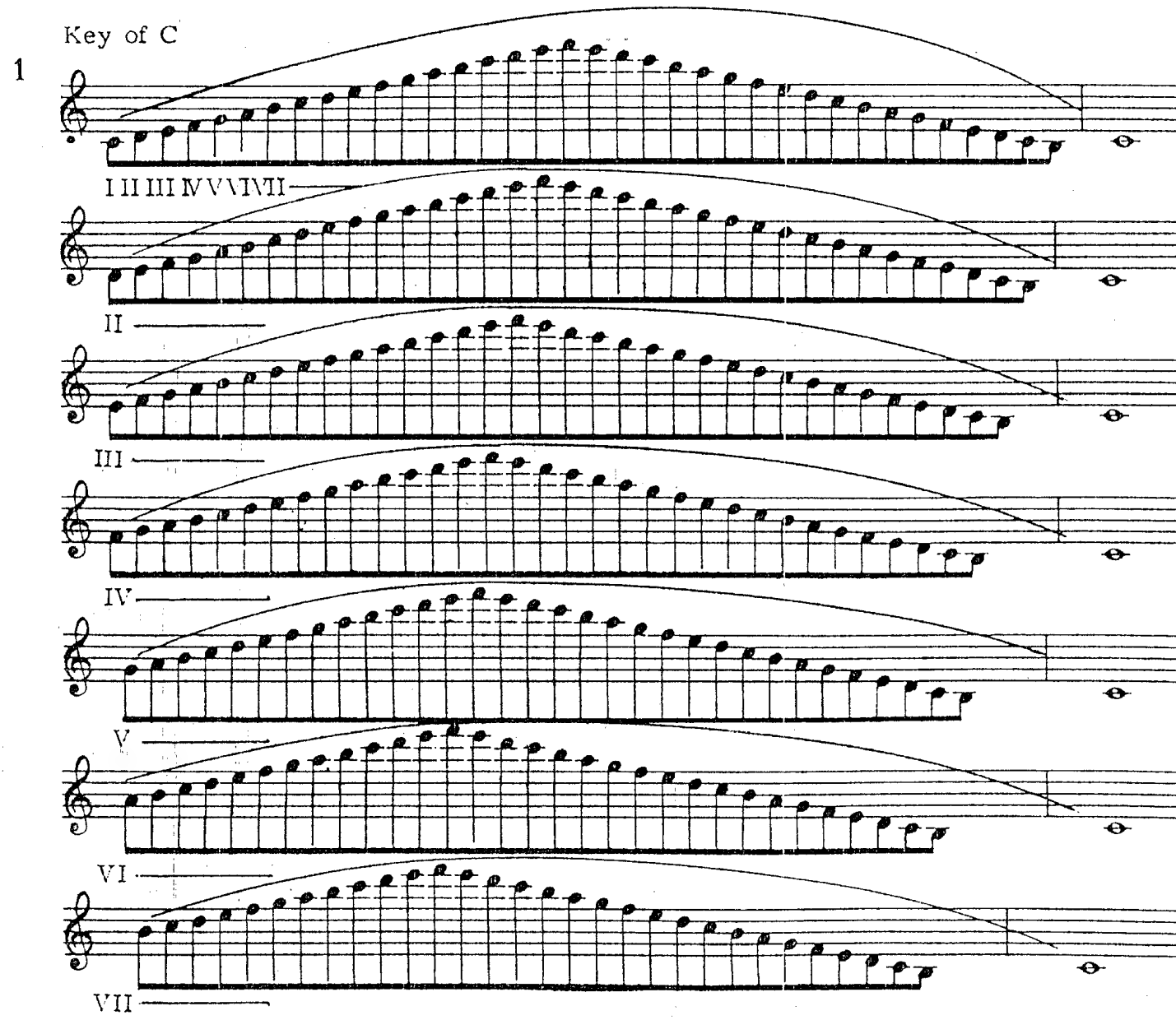
Because of the intricacy of continuous key change, all key accidentals have been indicated in the polytonal exercises. It is to be understood that cancellation of these accidentals occurs automatically at point of key change.

Symbols used in the polytonal exercises are not chord symbols. They are simply used to indicate the major key scale from which that section of the exercise is derived.

J.V.

Section I

MAJOR SCALES - TONAL VARIATIONS



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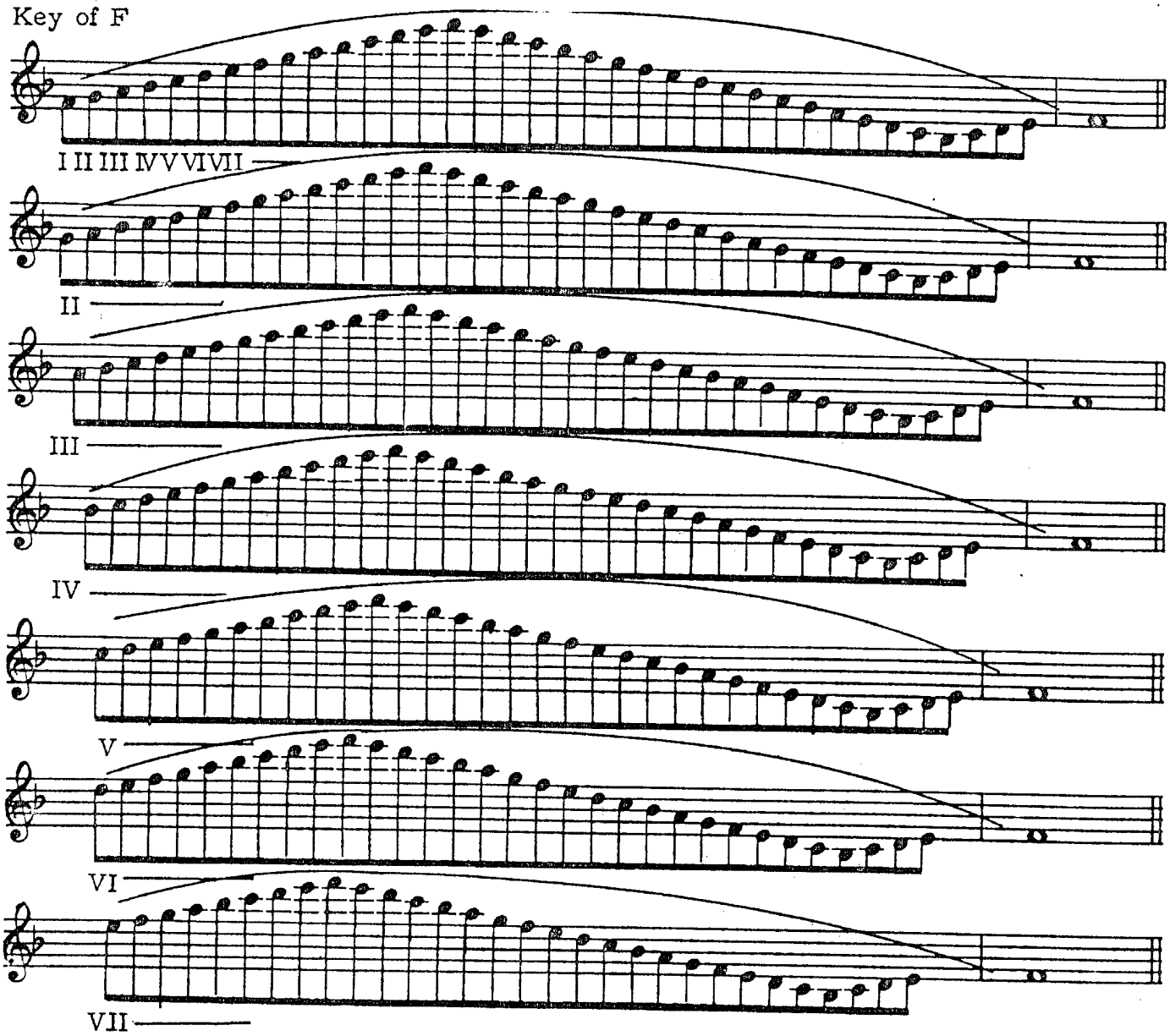
Key of F



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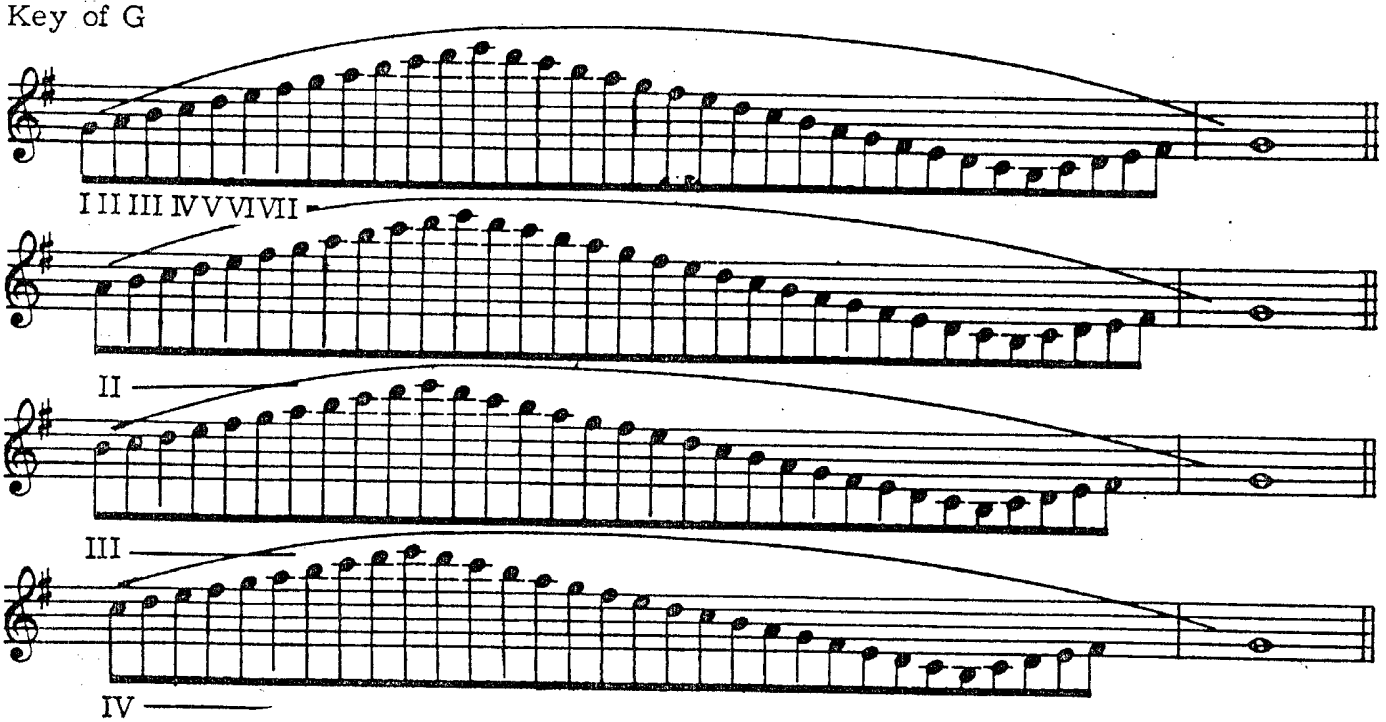

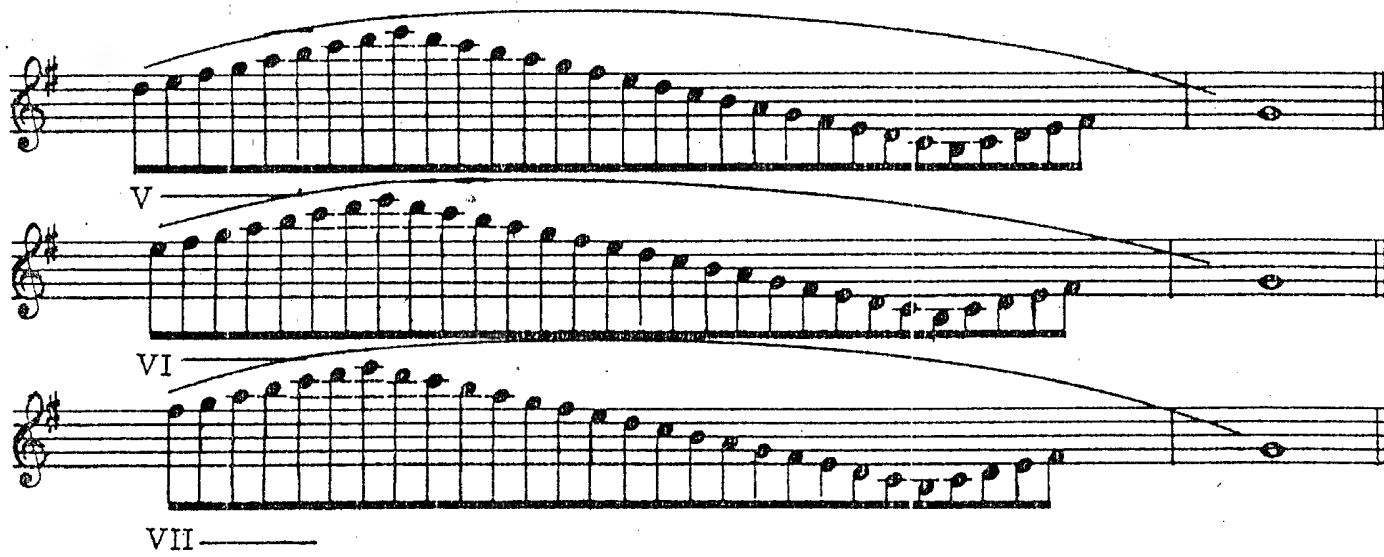

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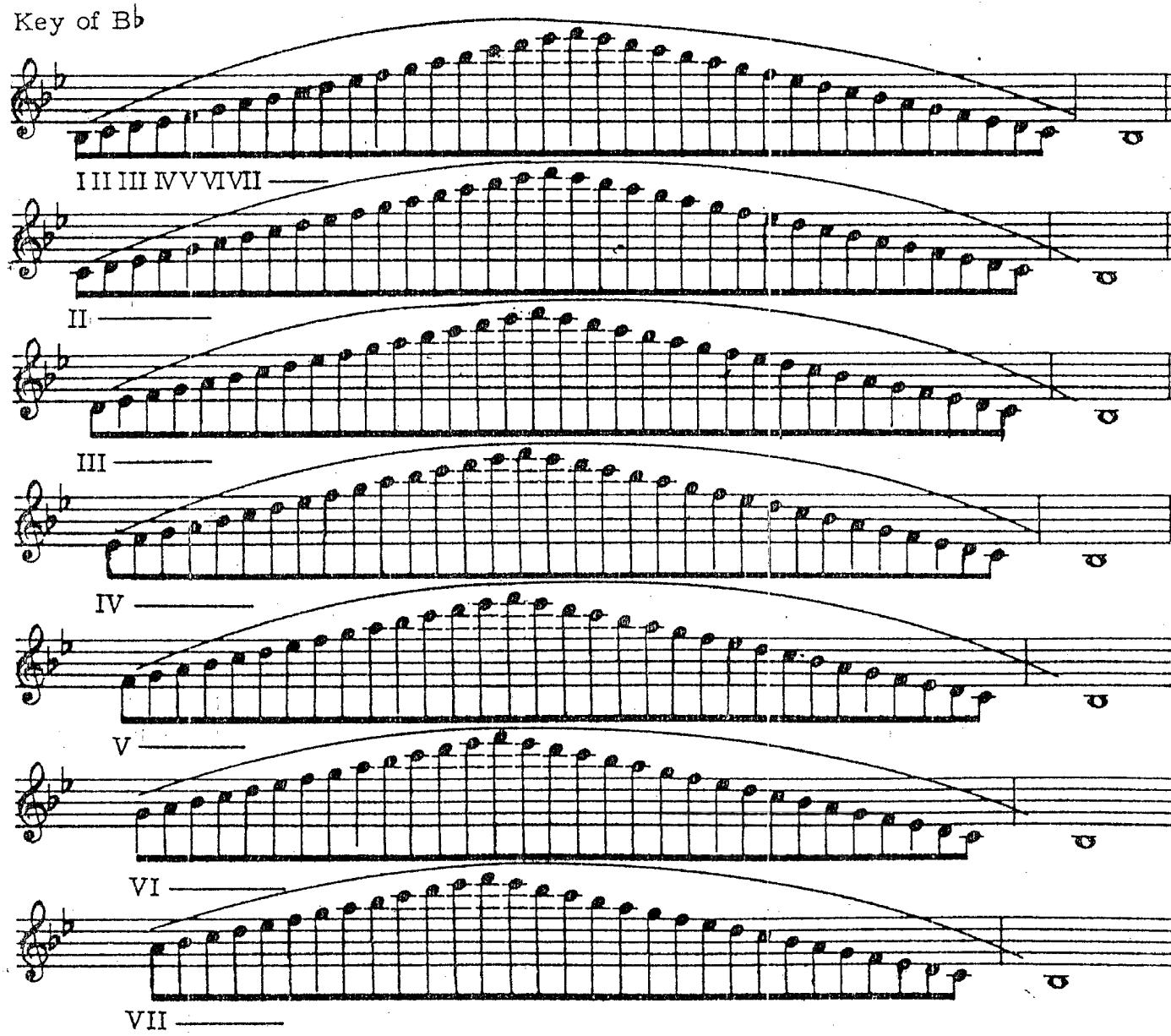

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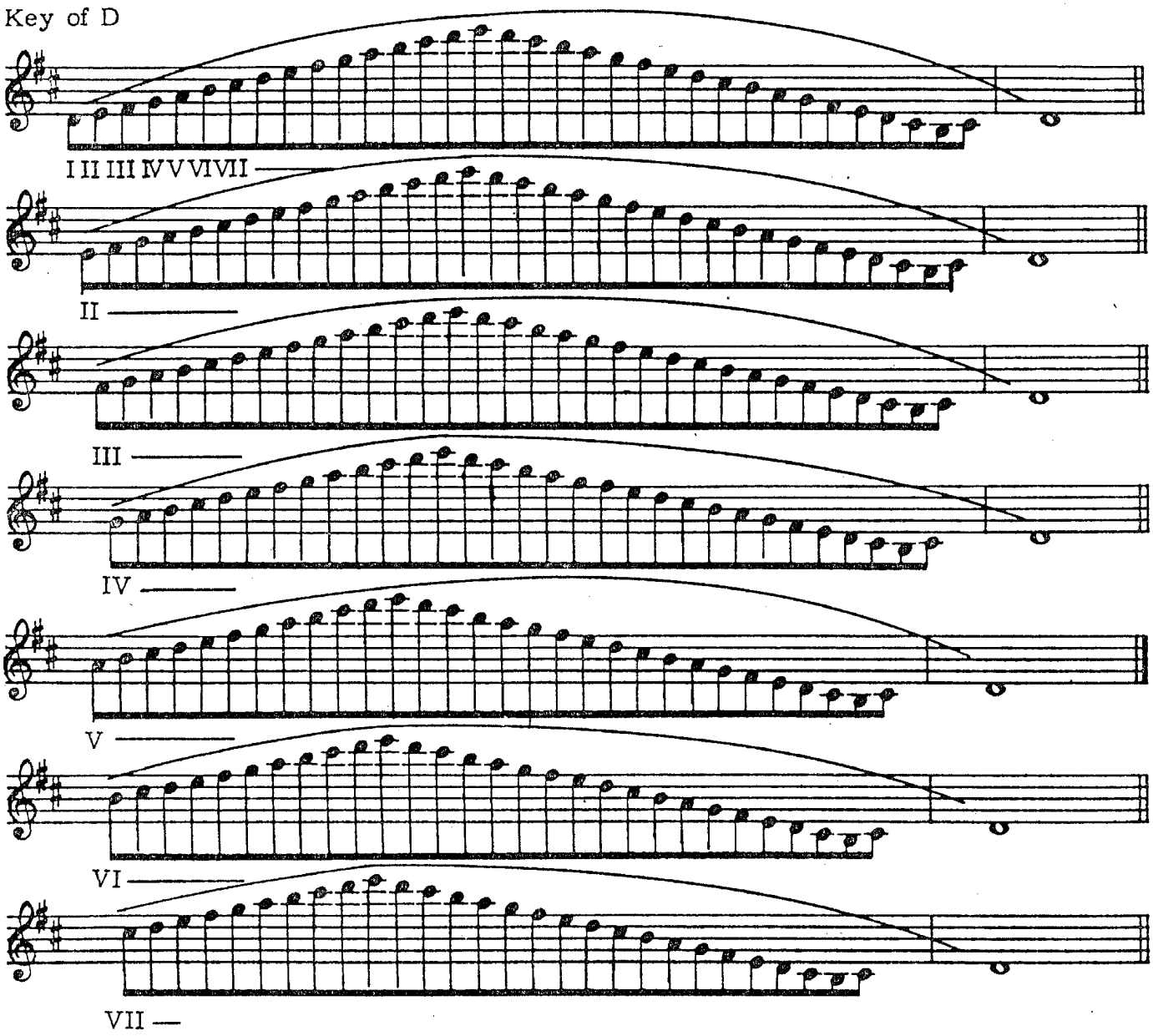

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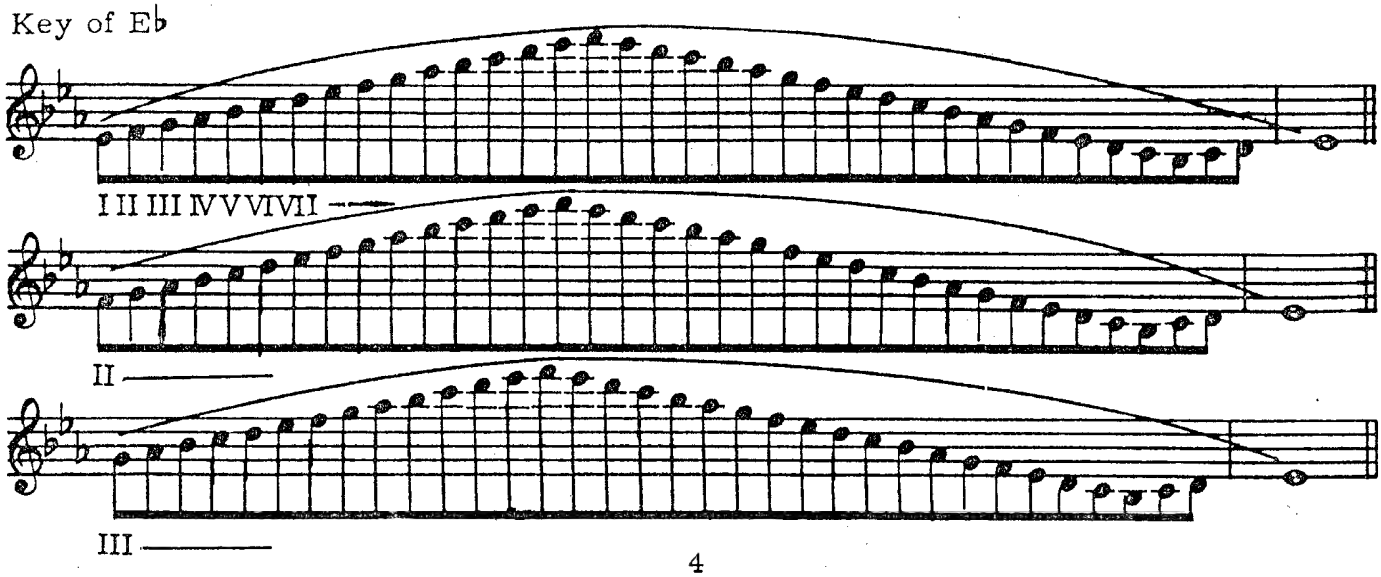

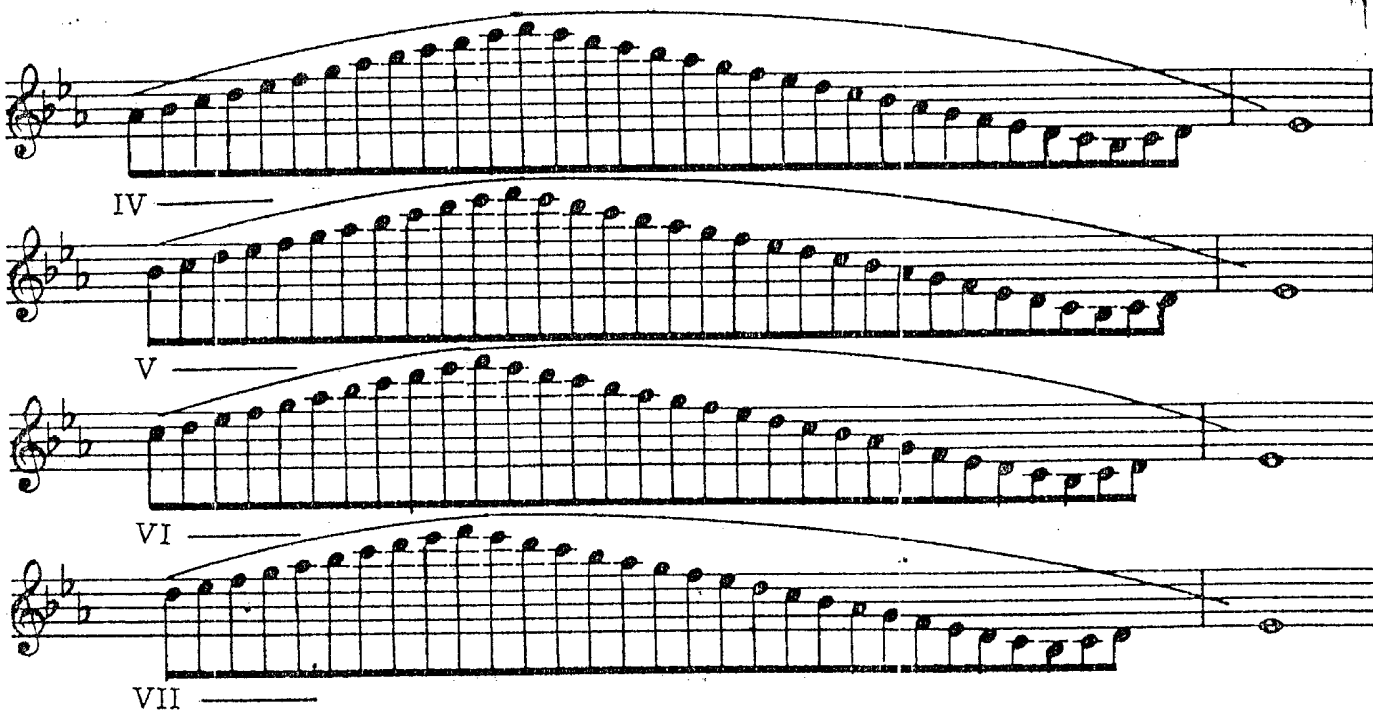

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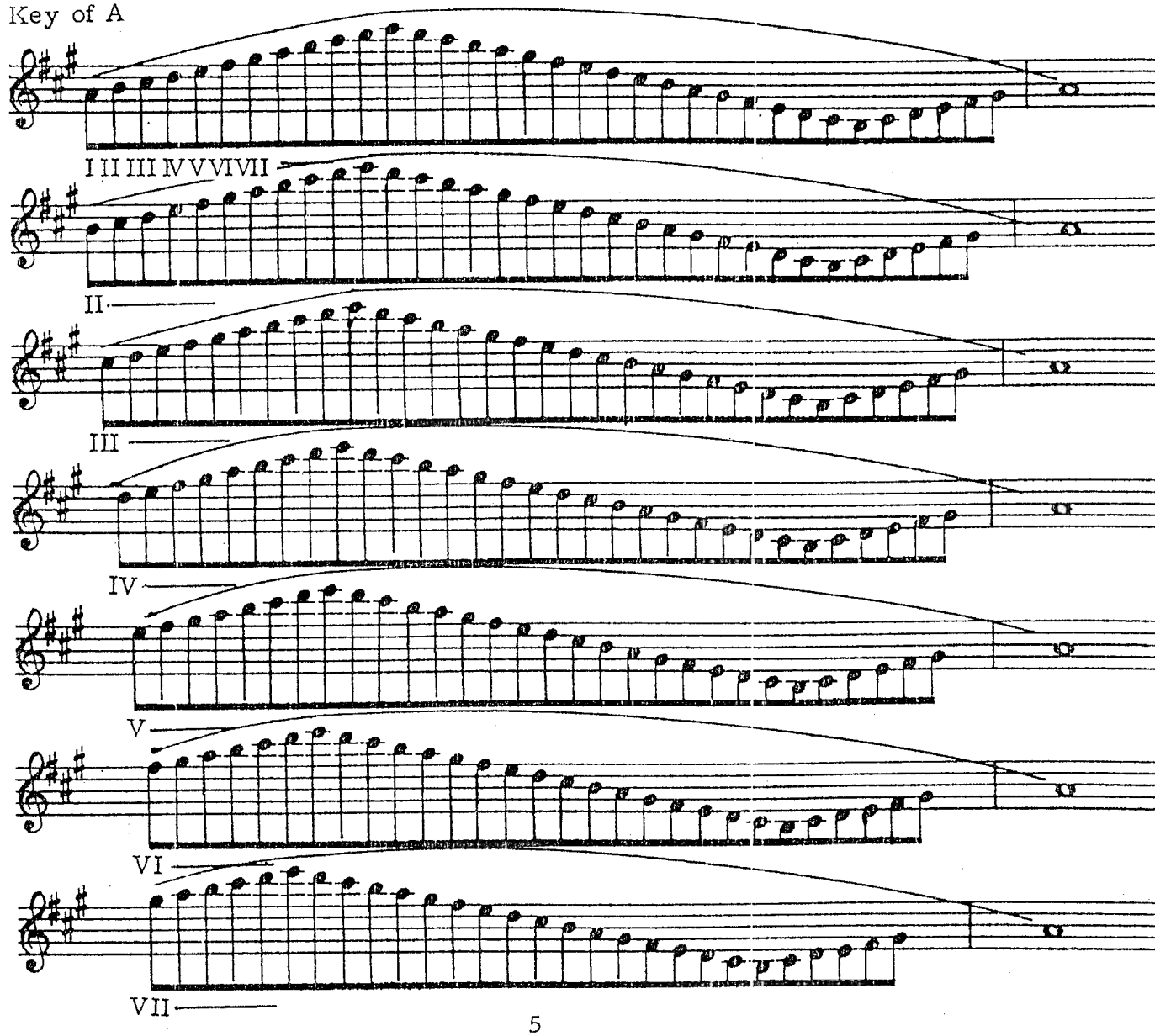

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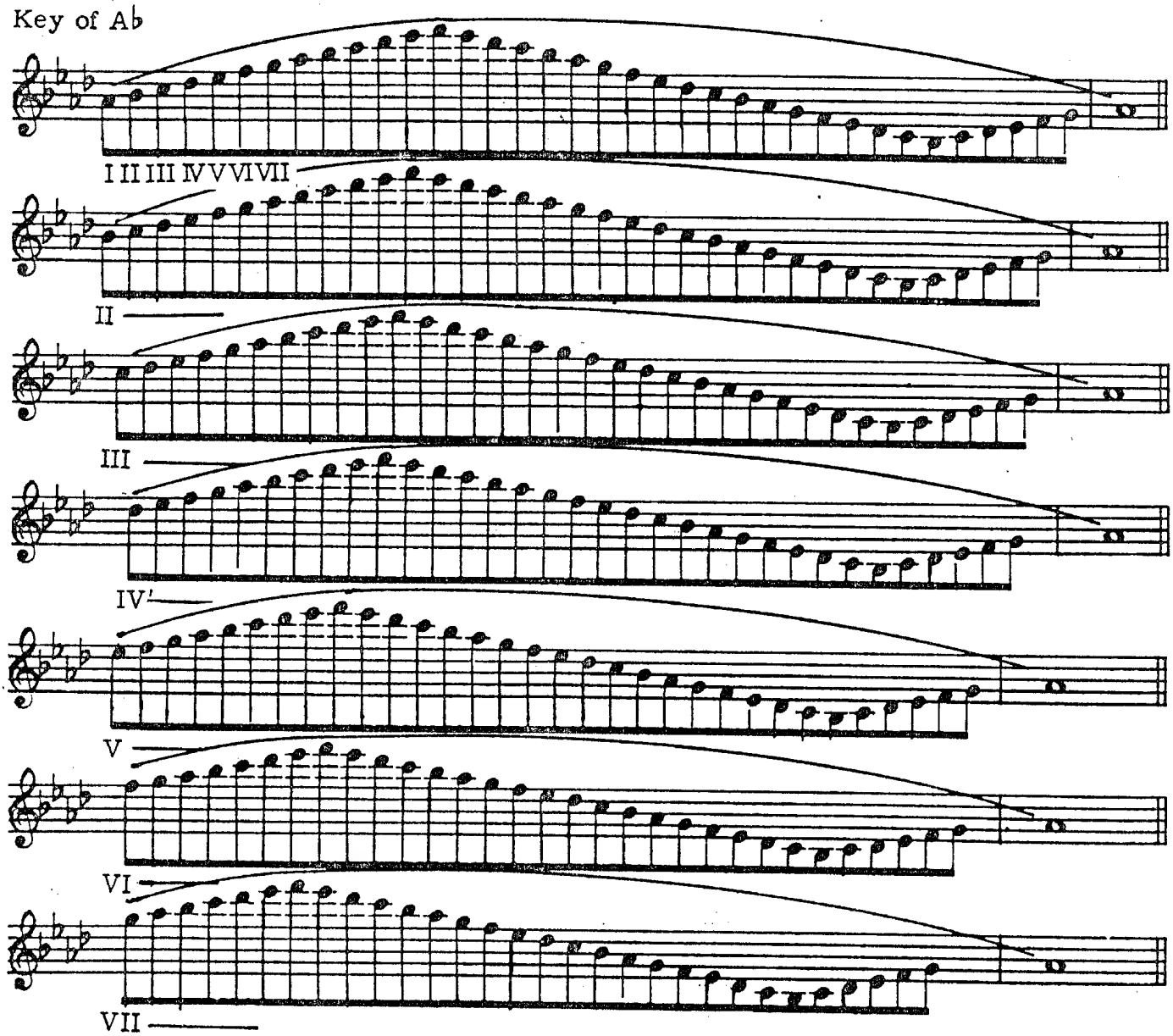

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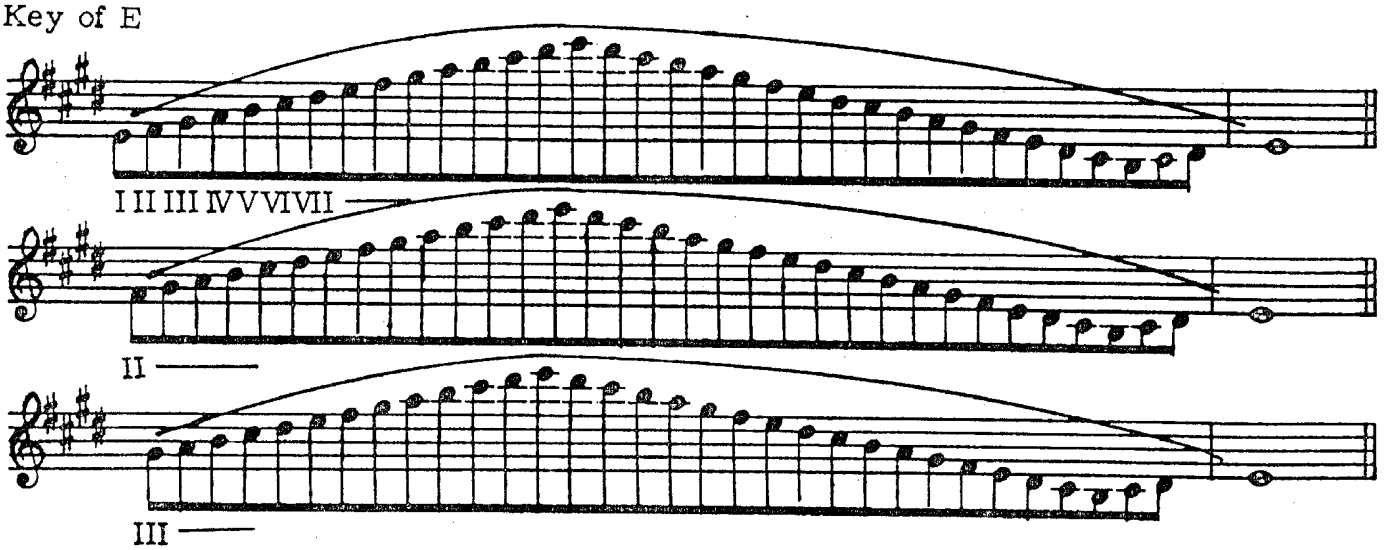

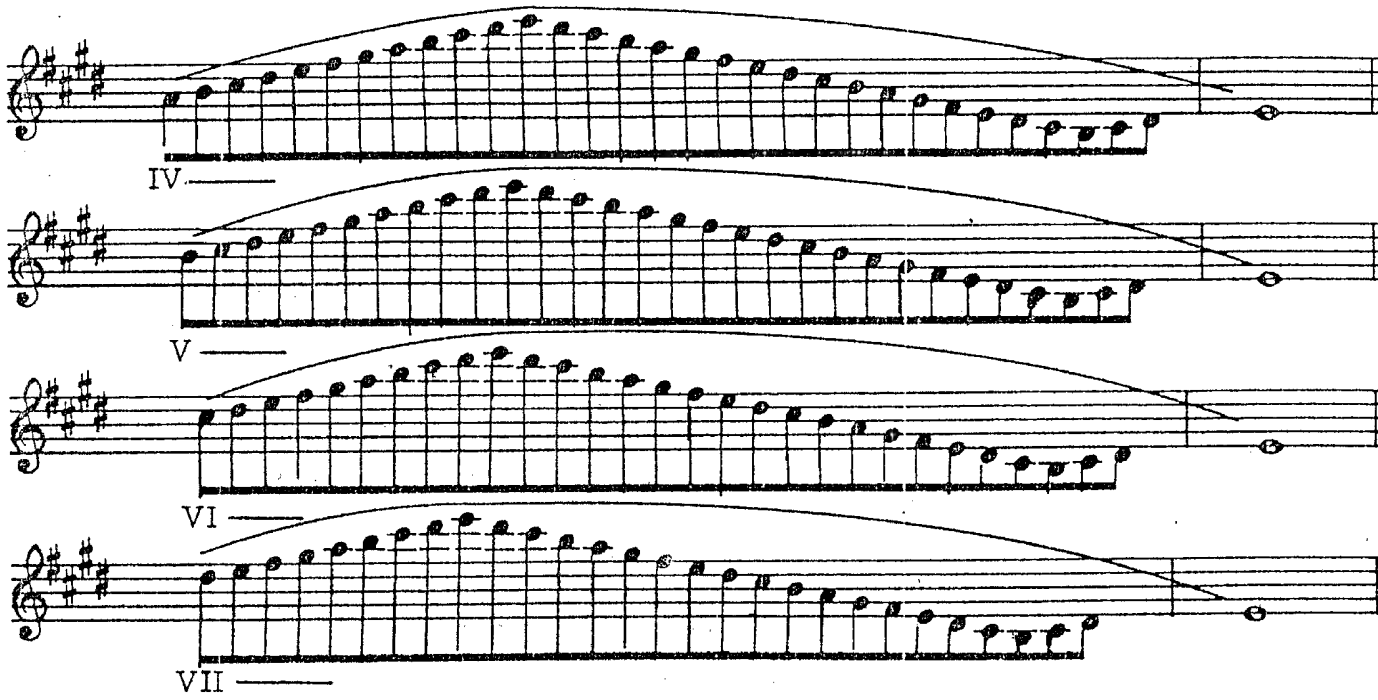

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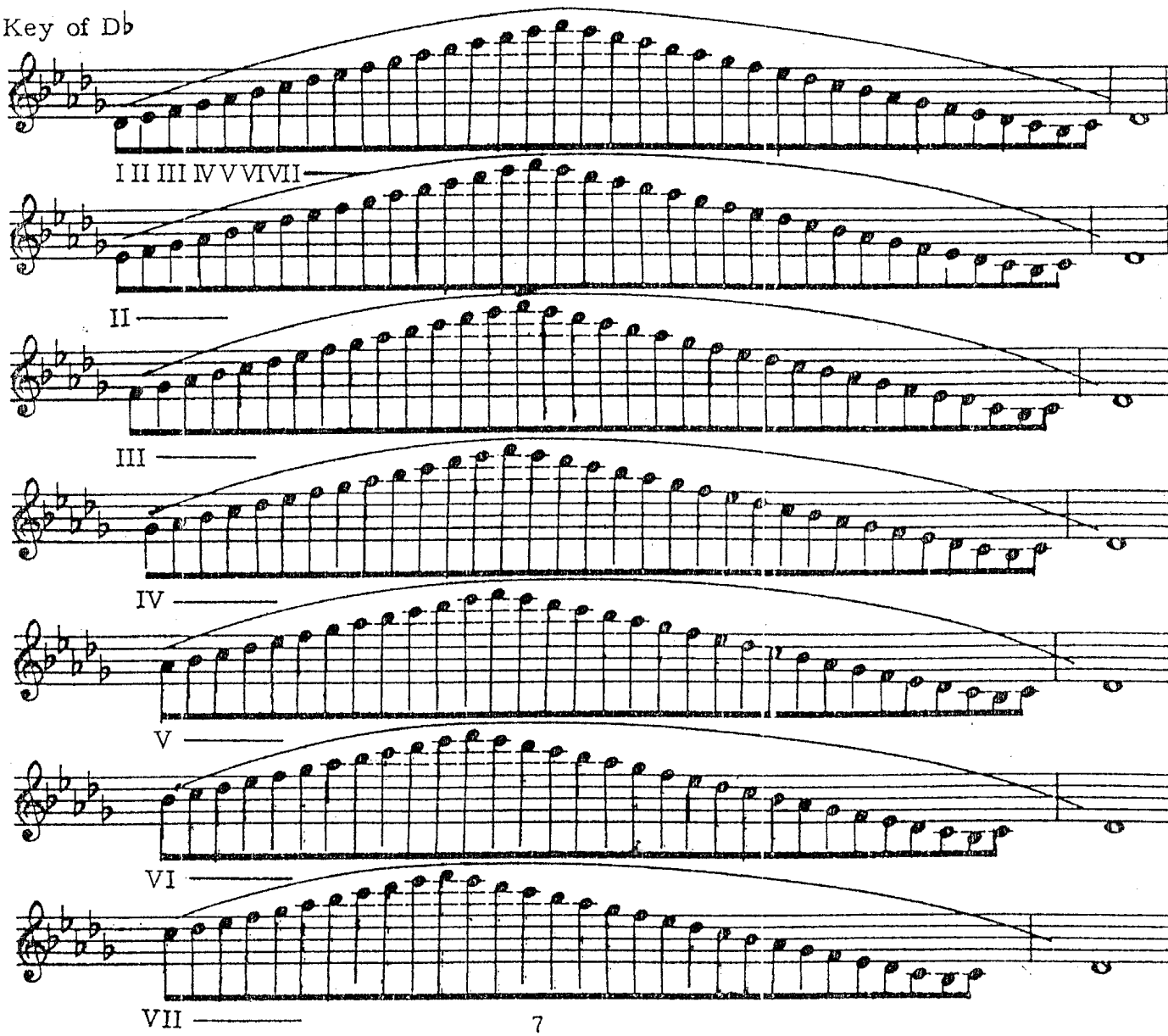

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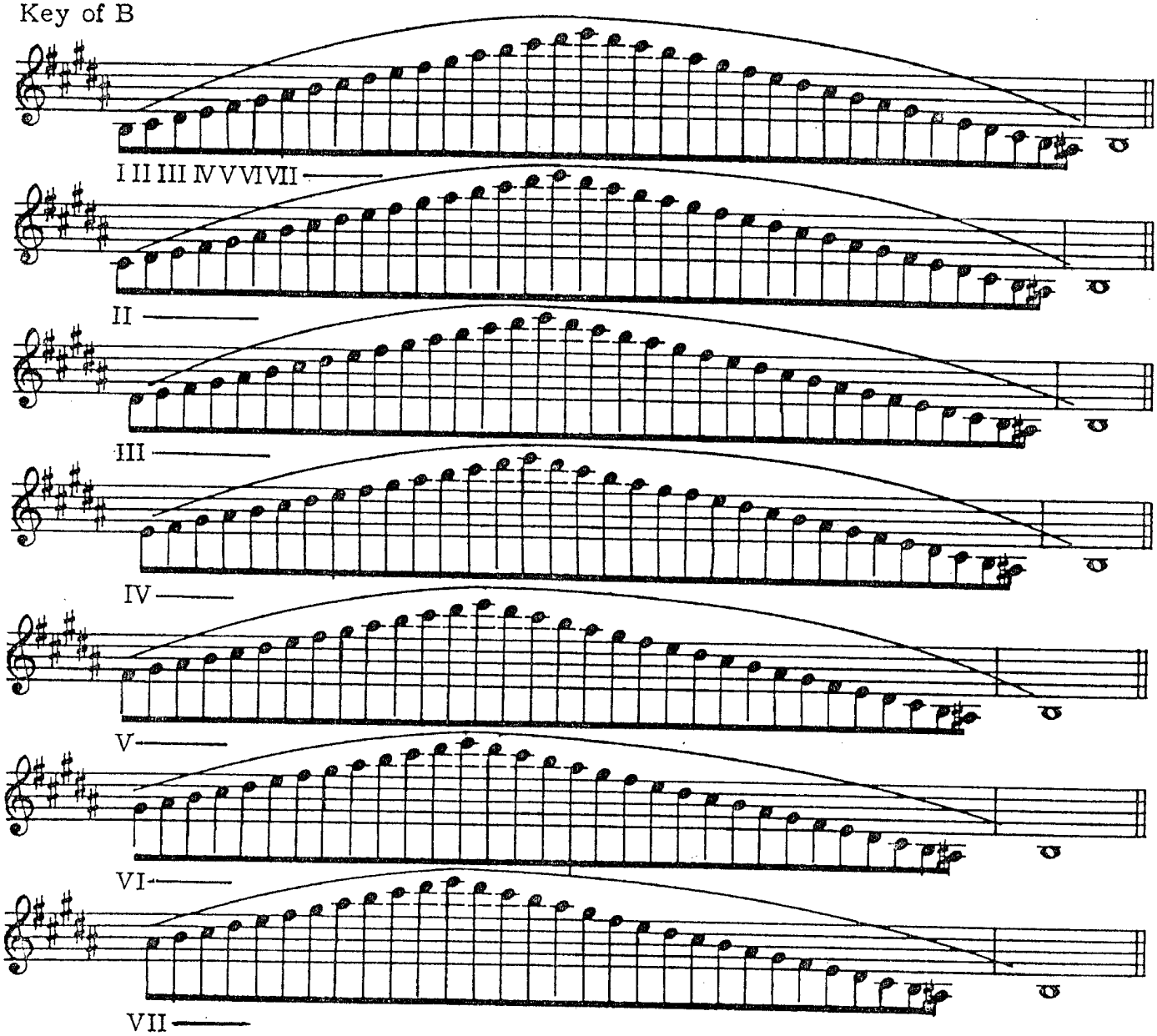

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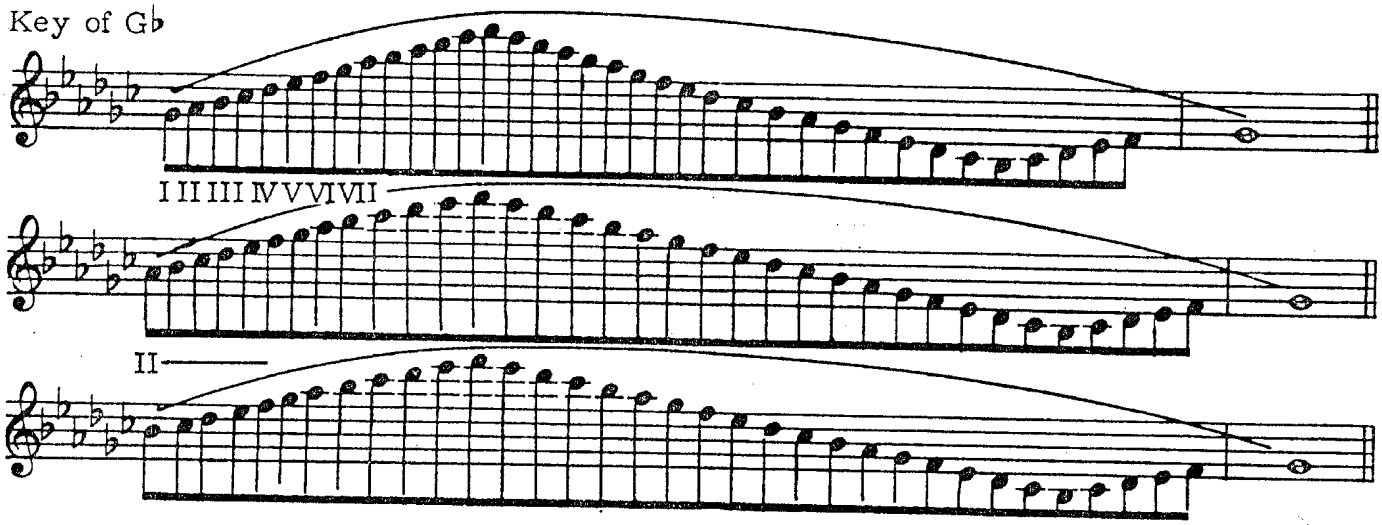

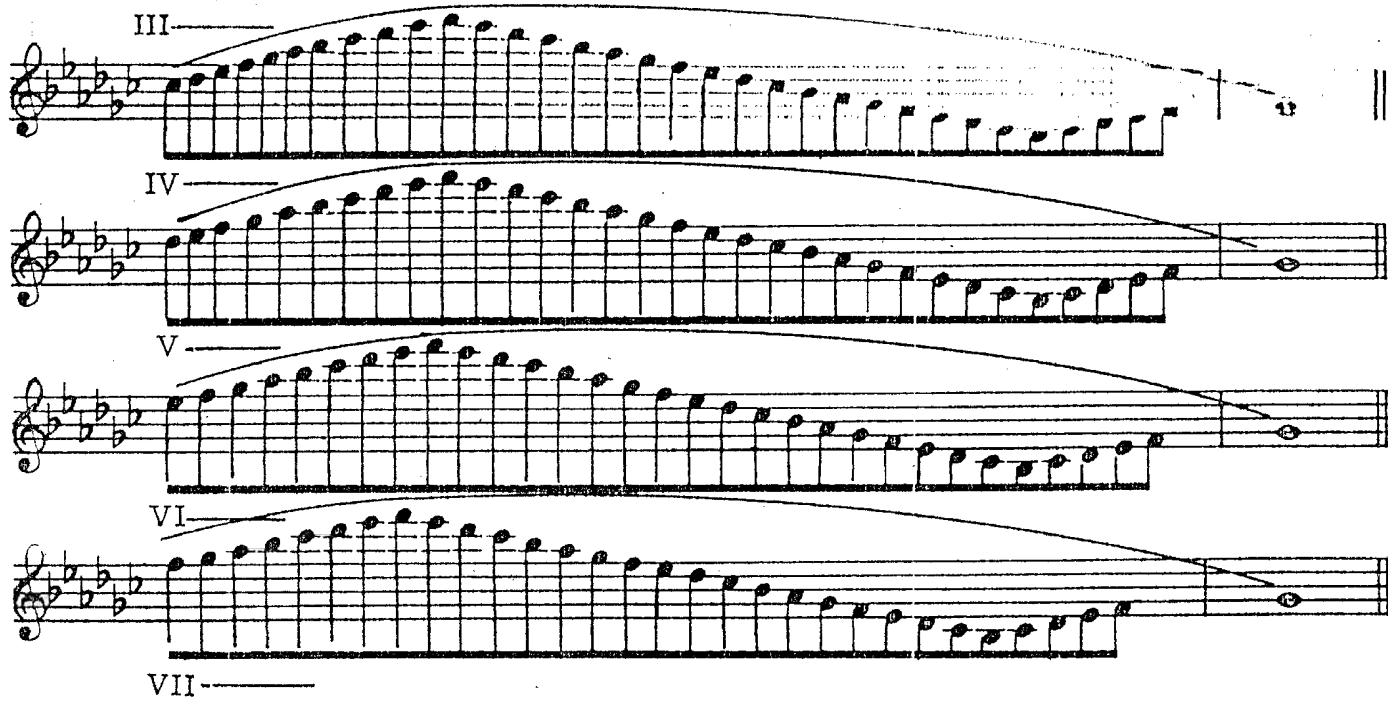

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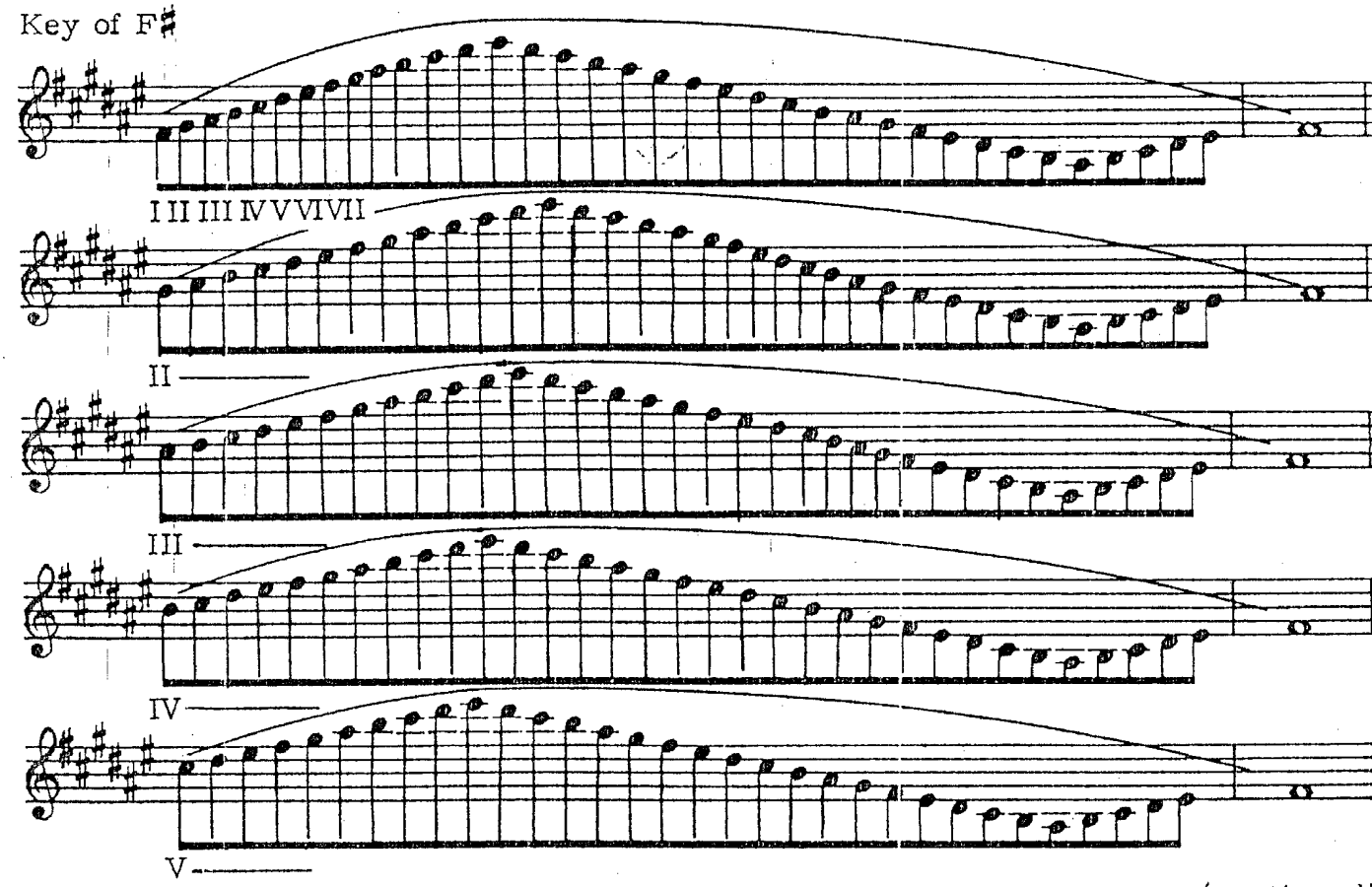

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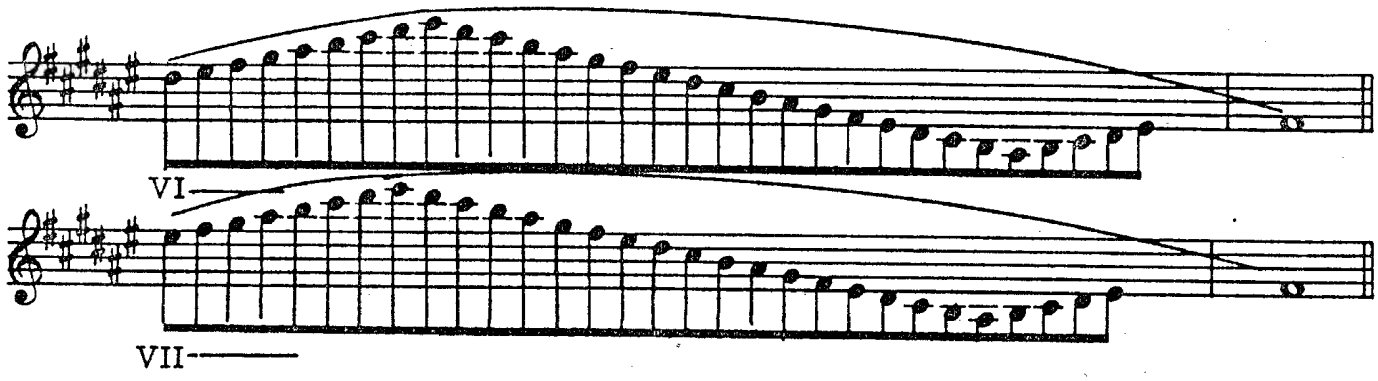

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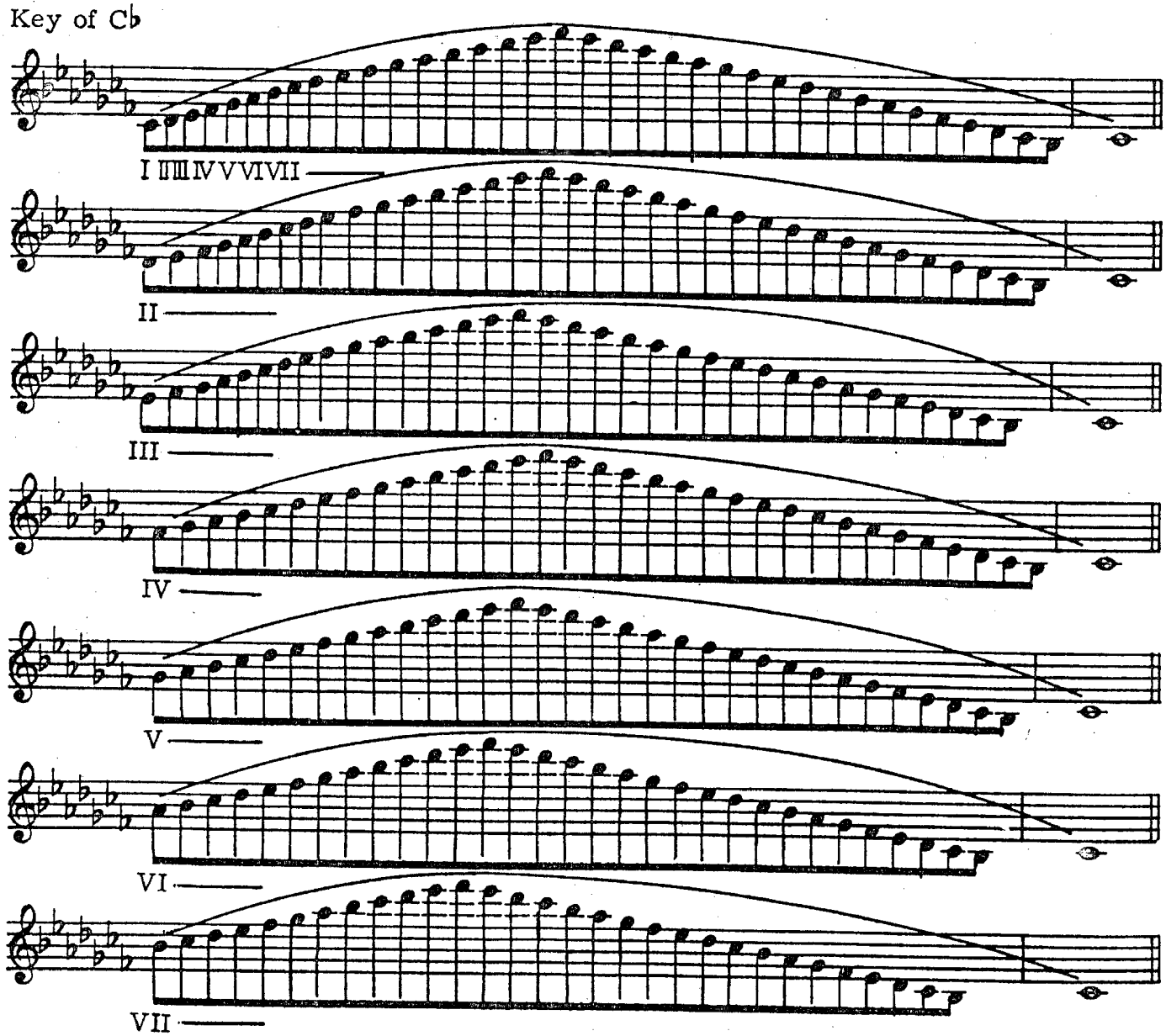

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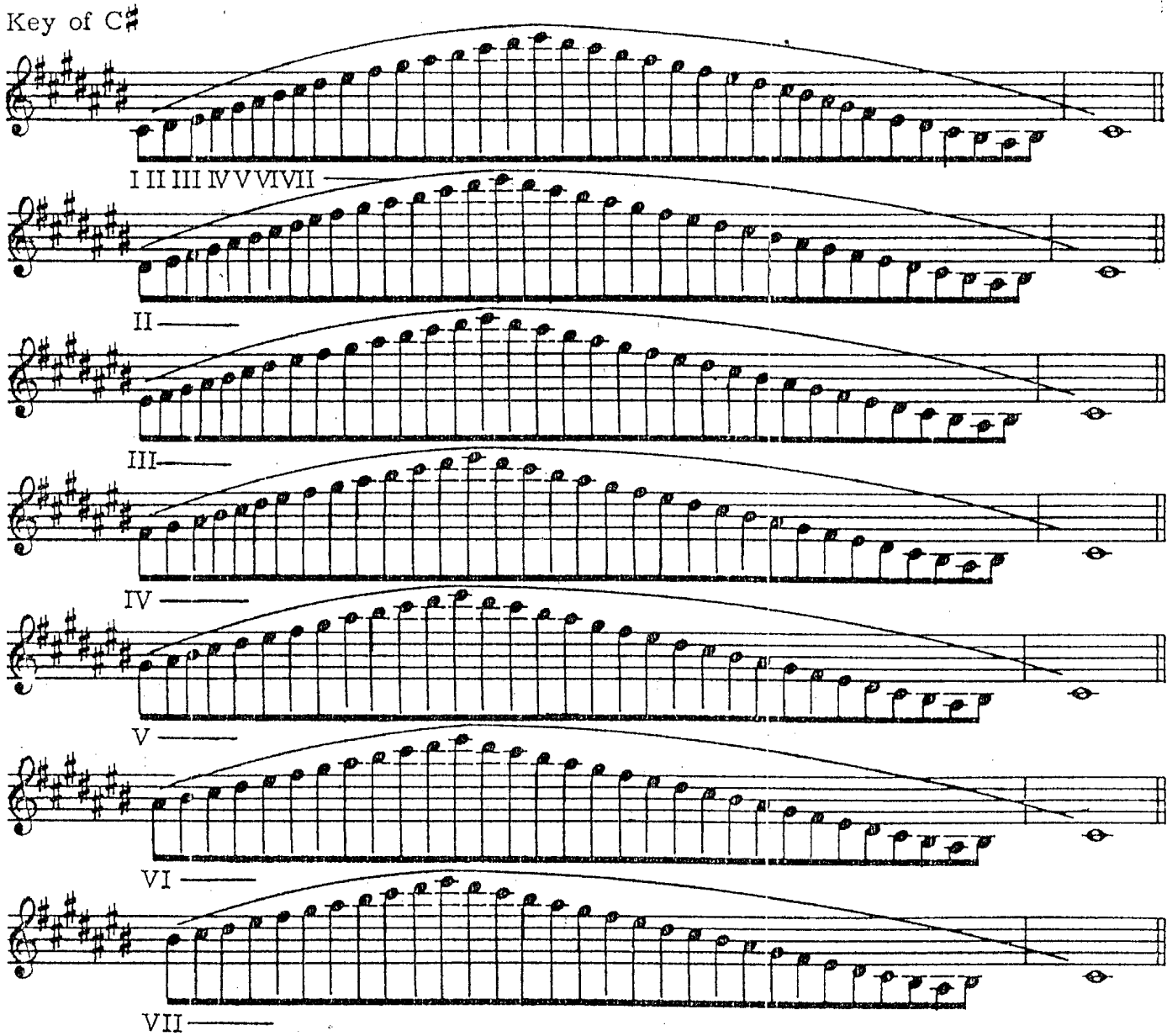

MM-66

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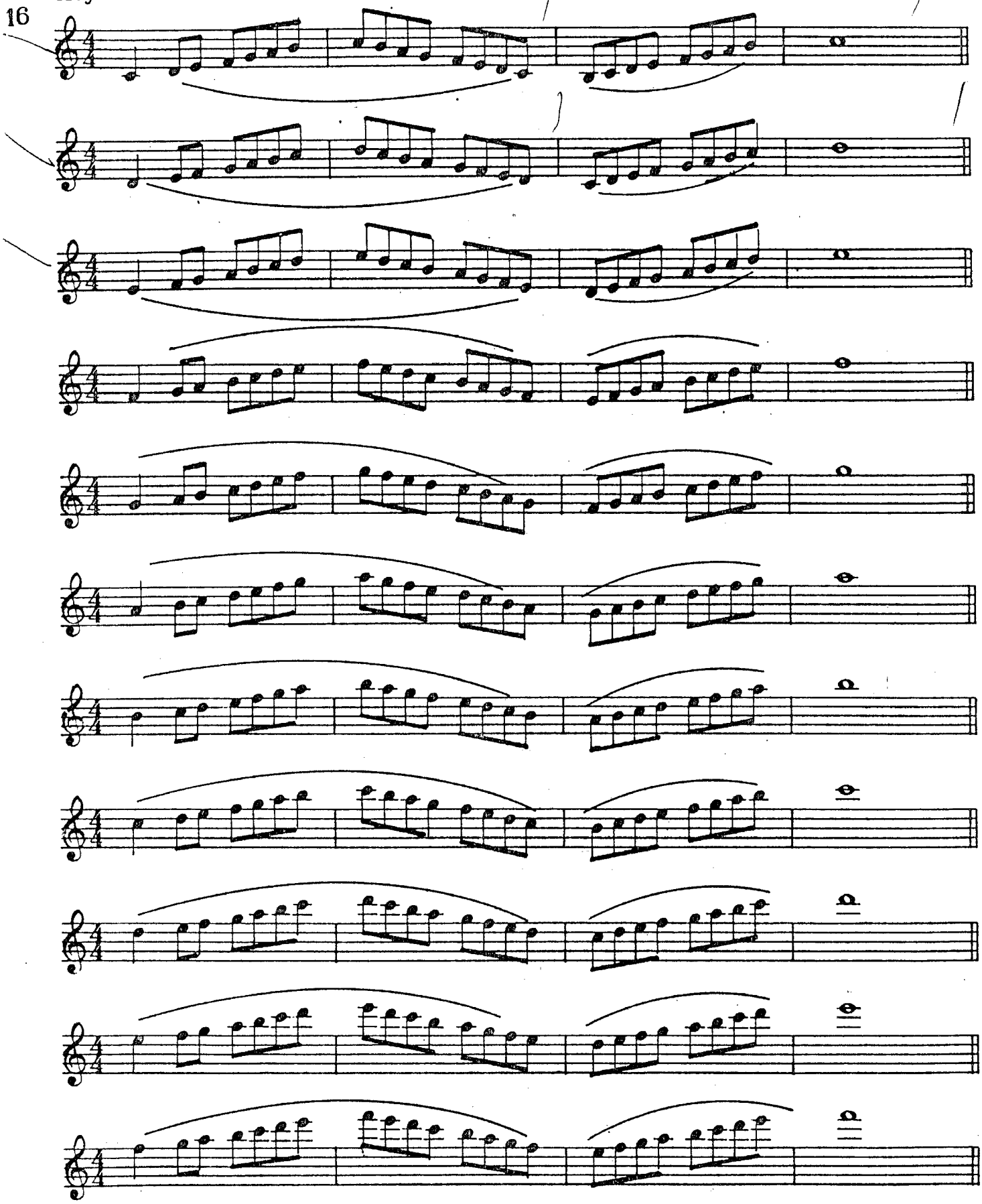

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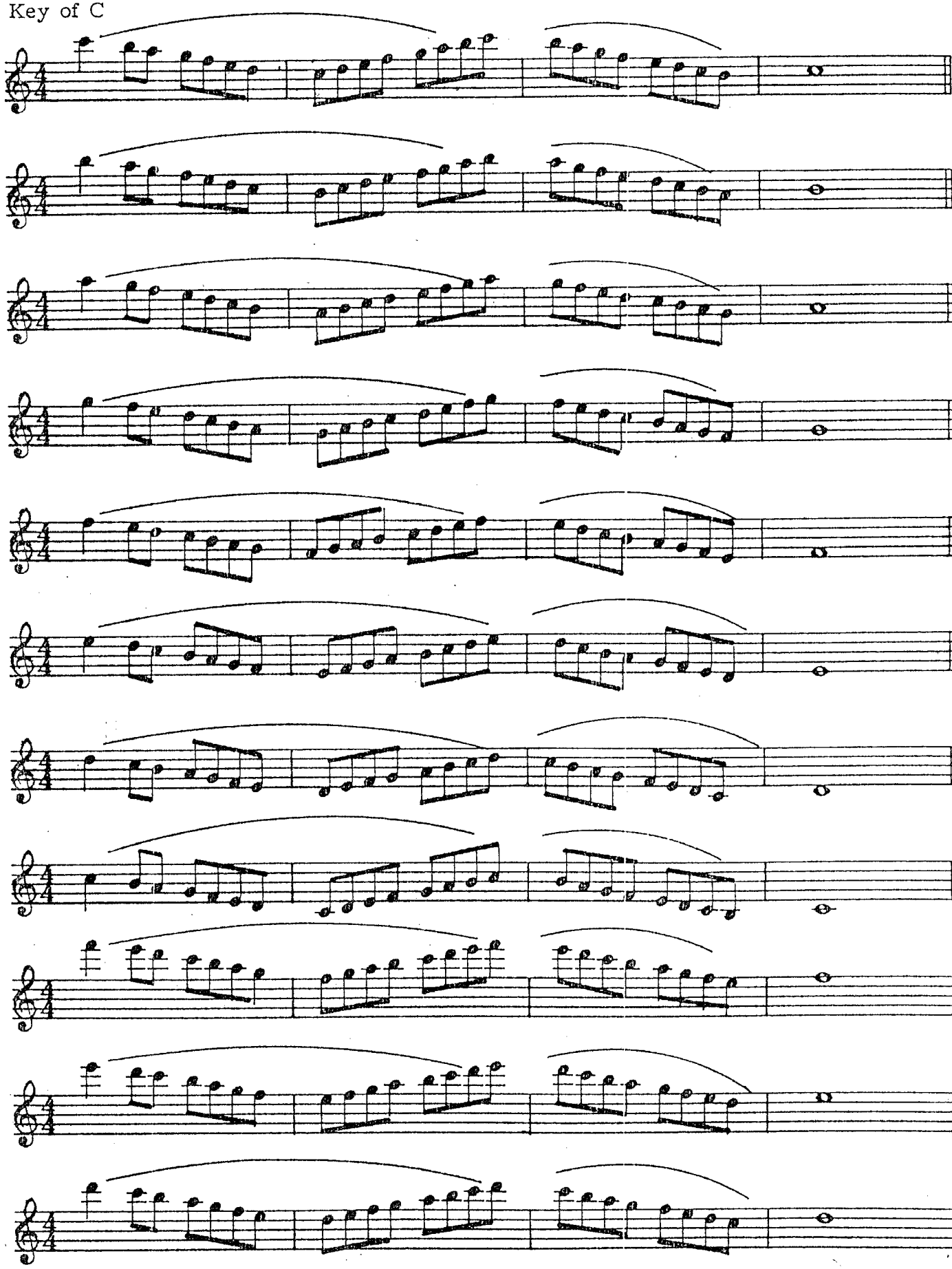

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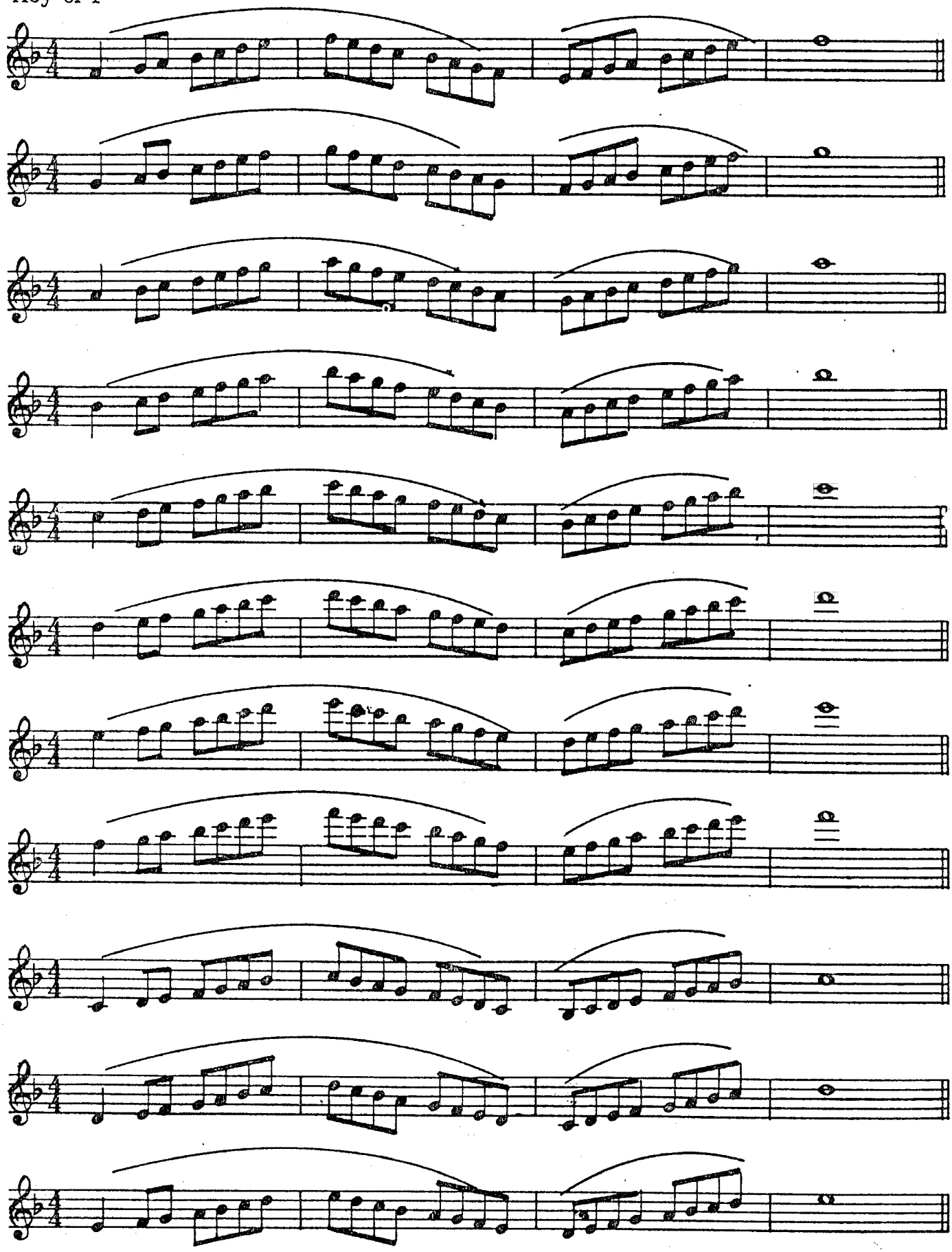

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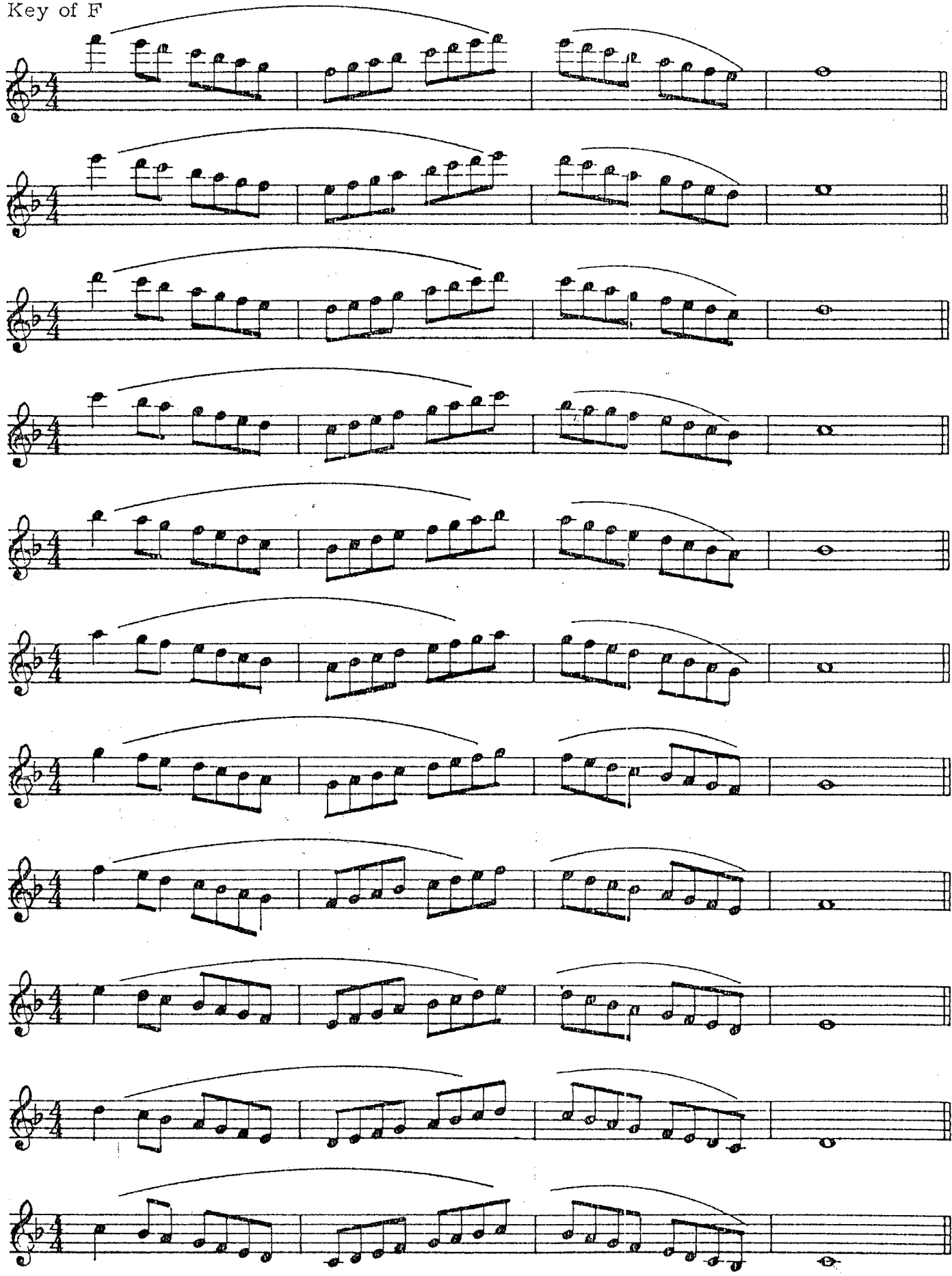

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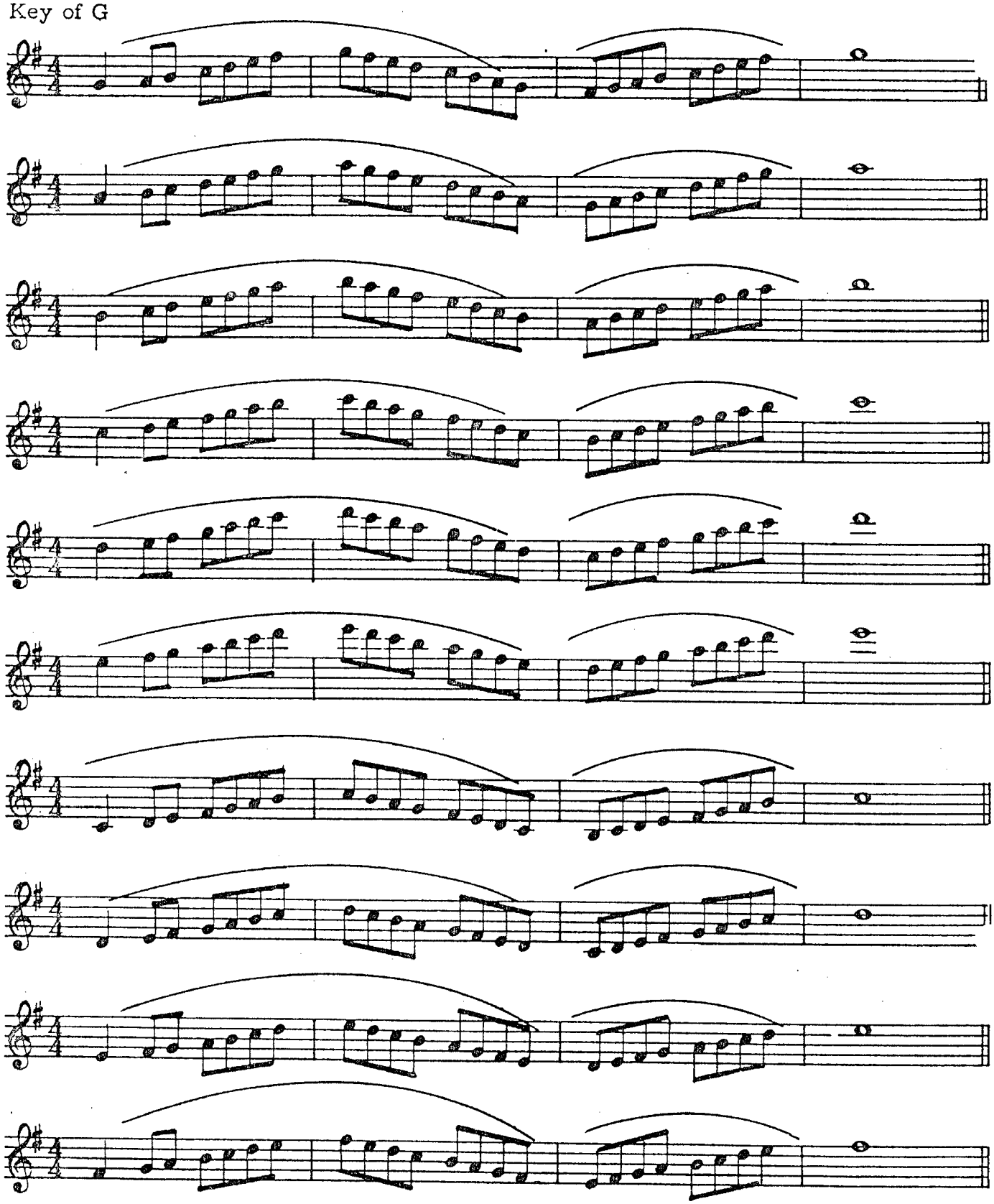

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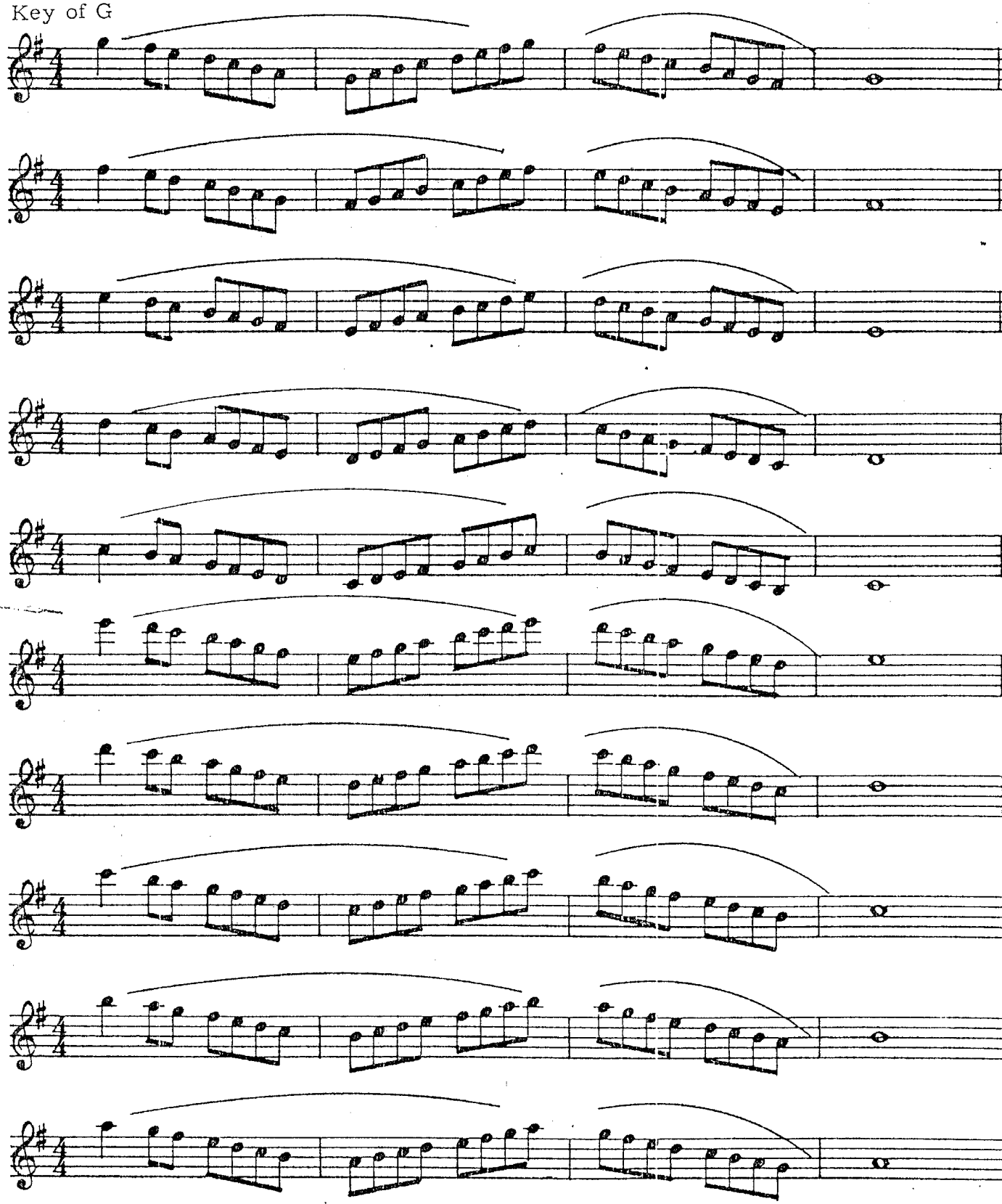

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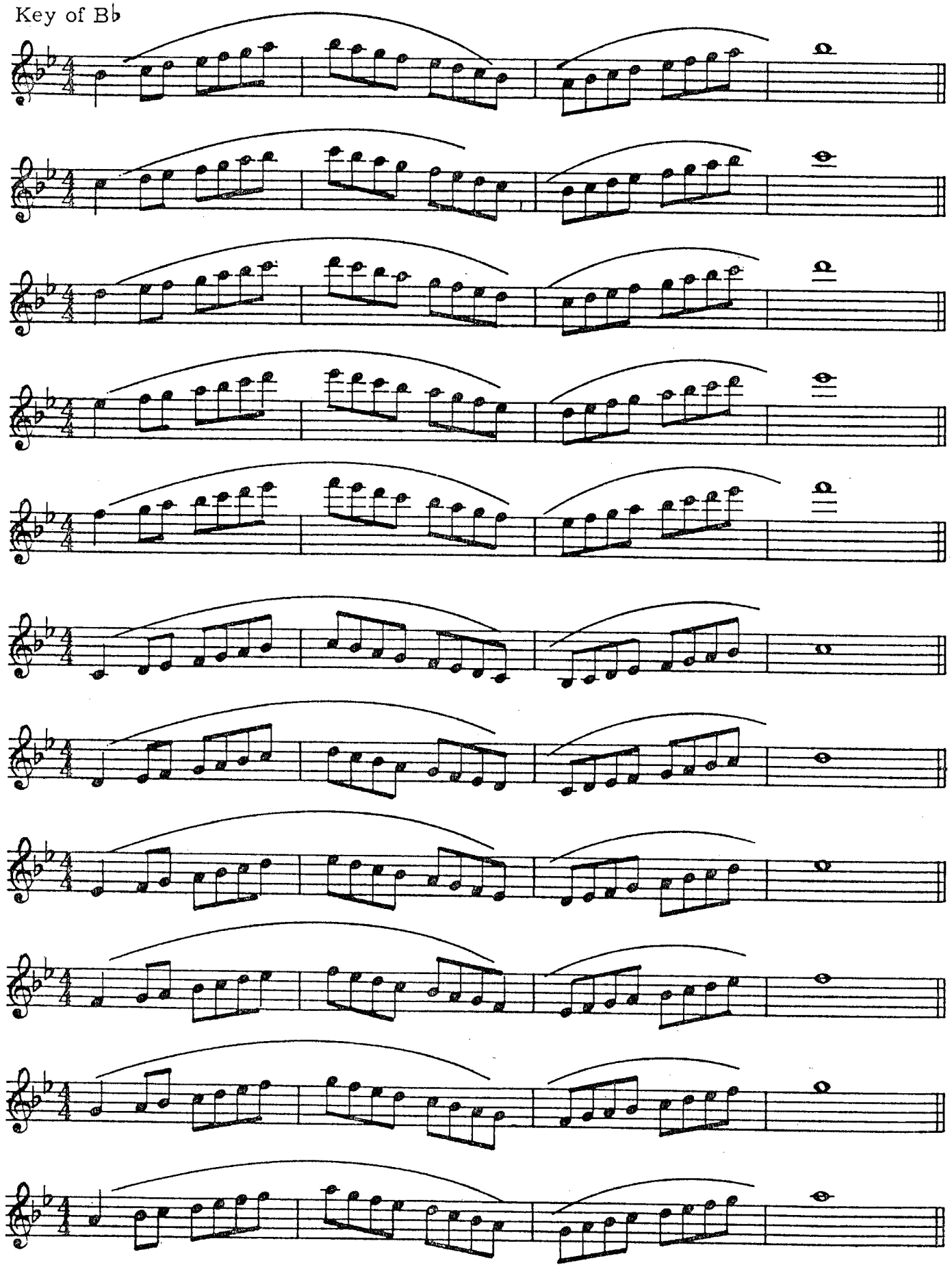

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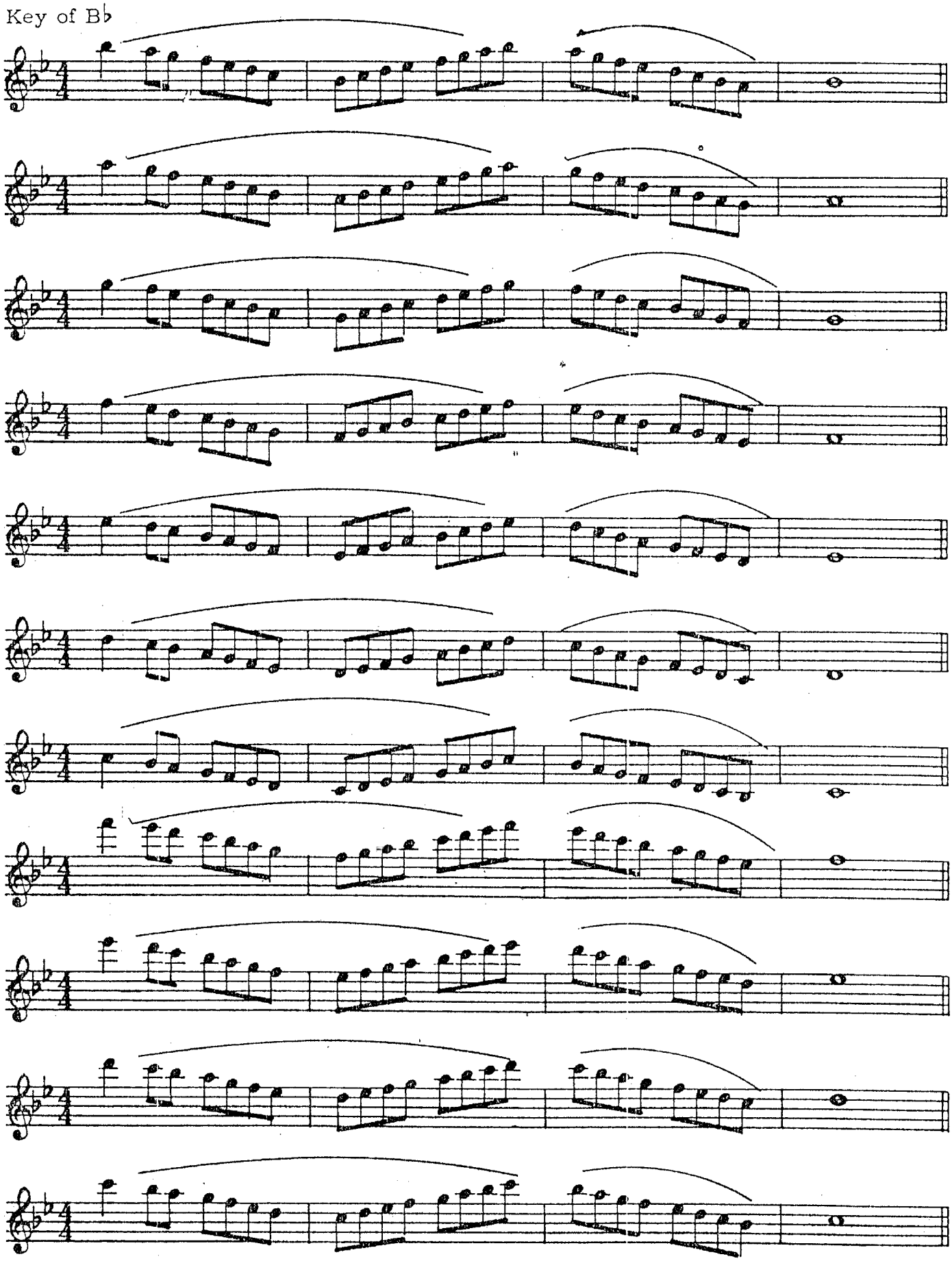

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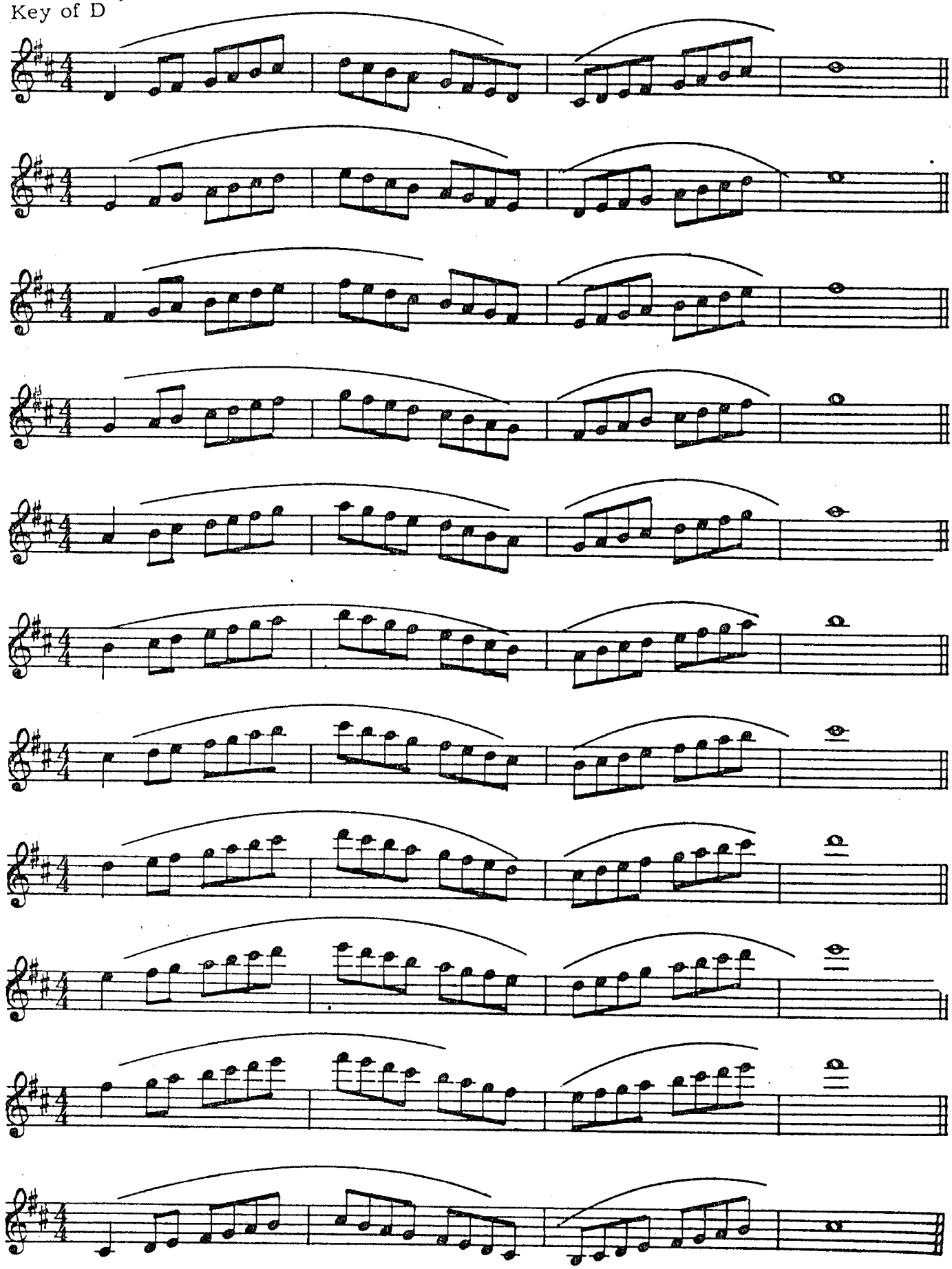

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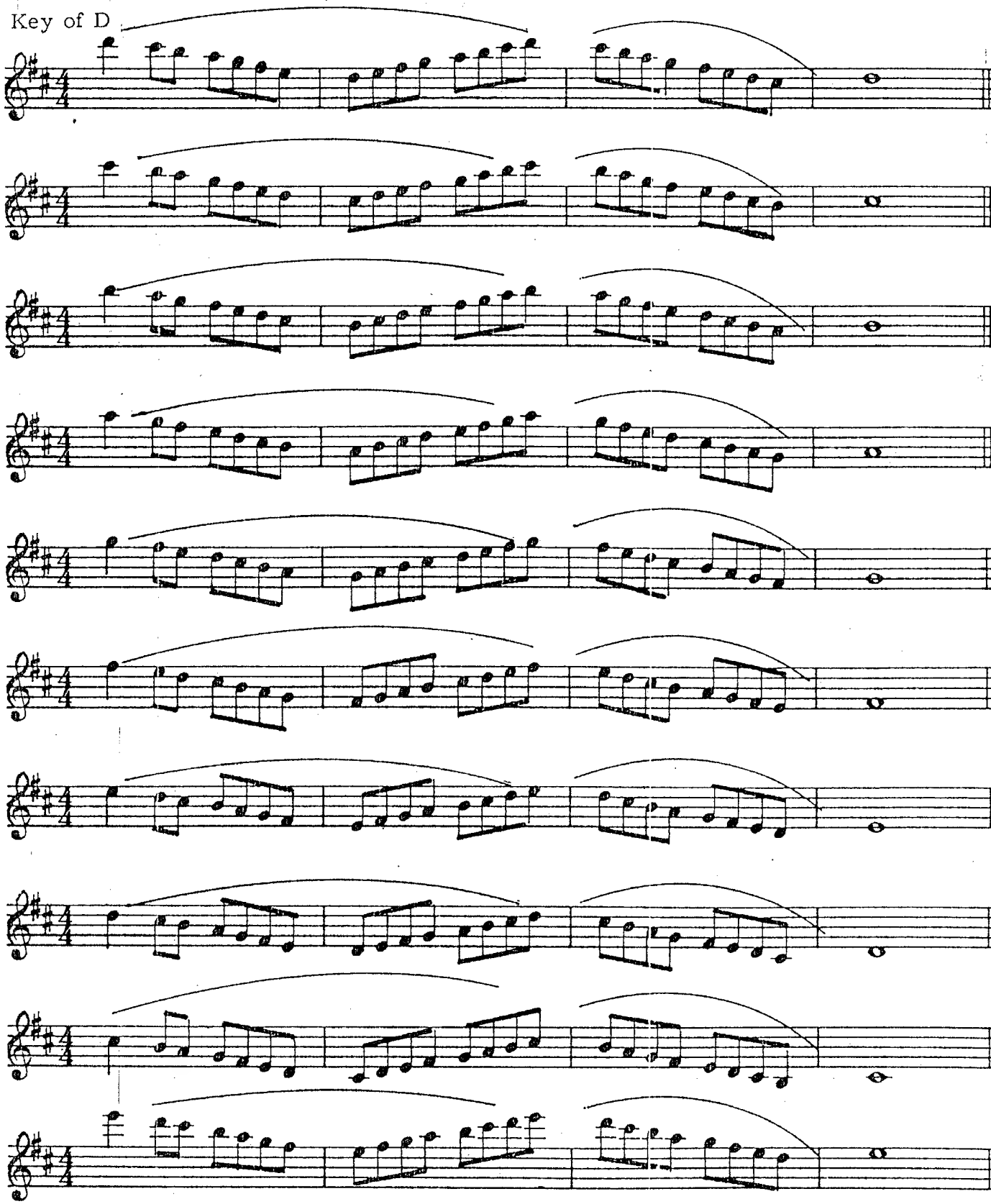

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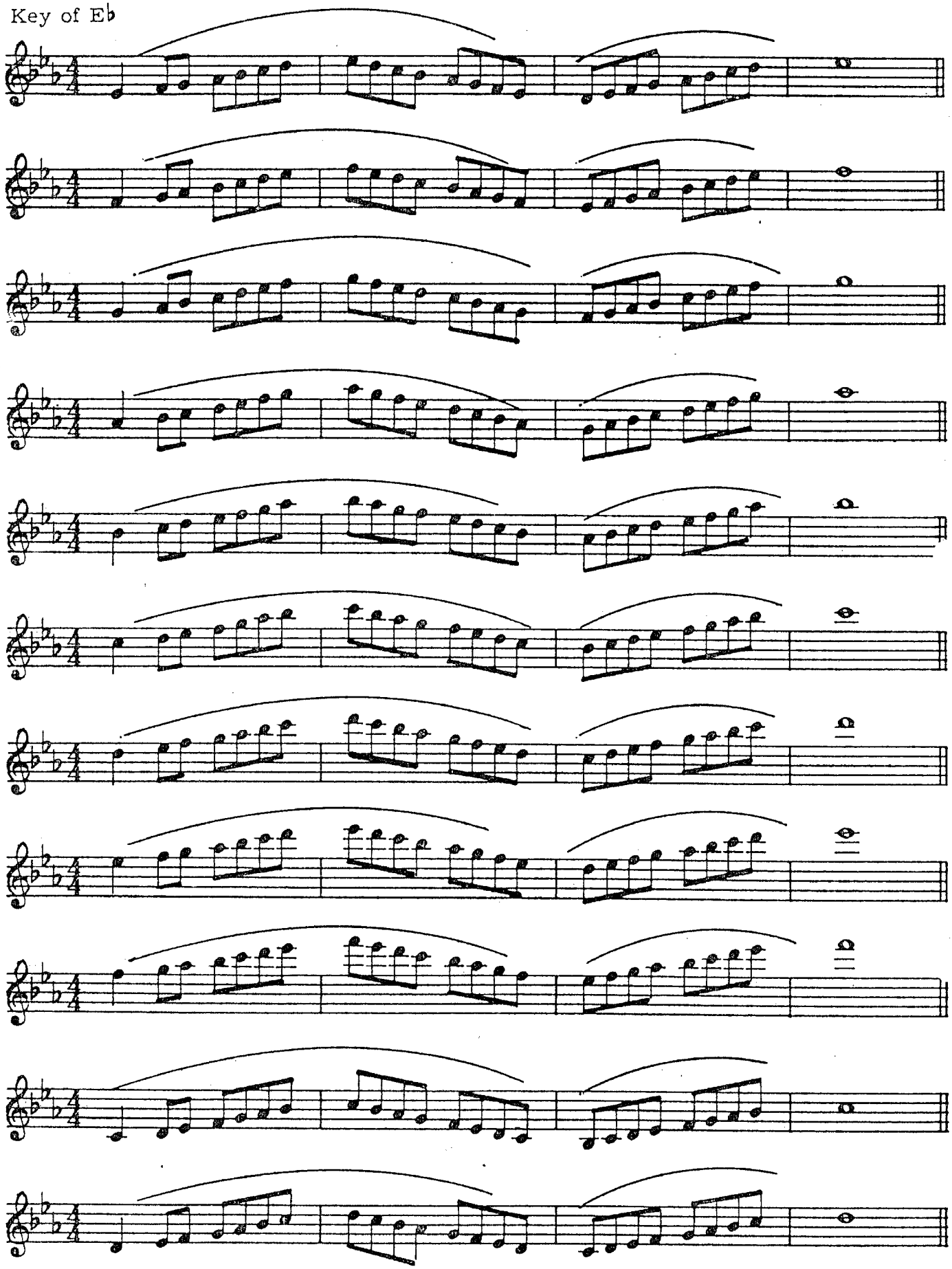

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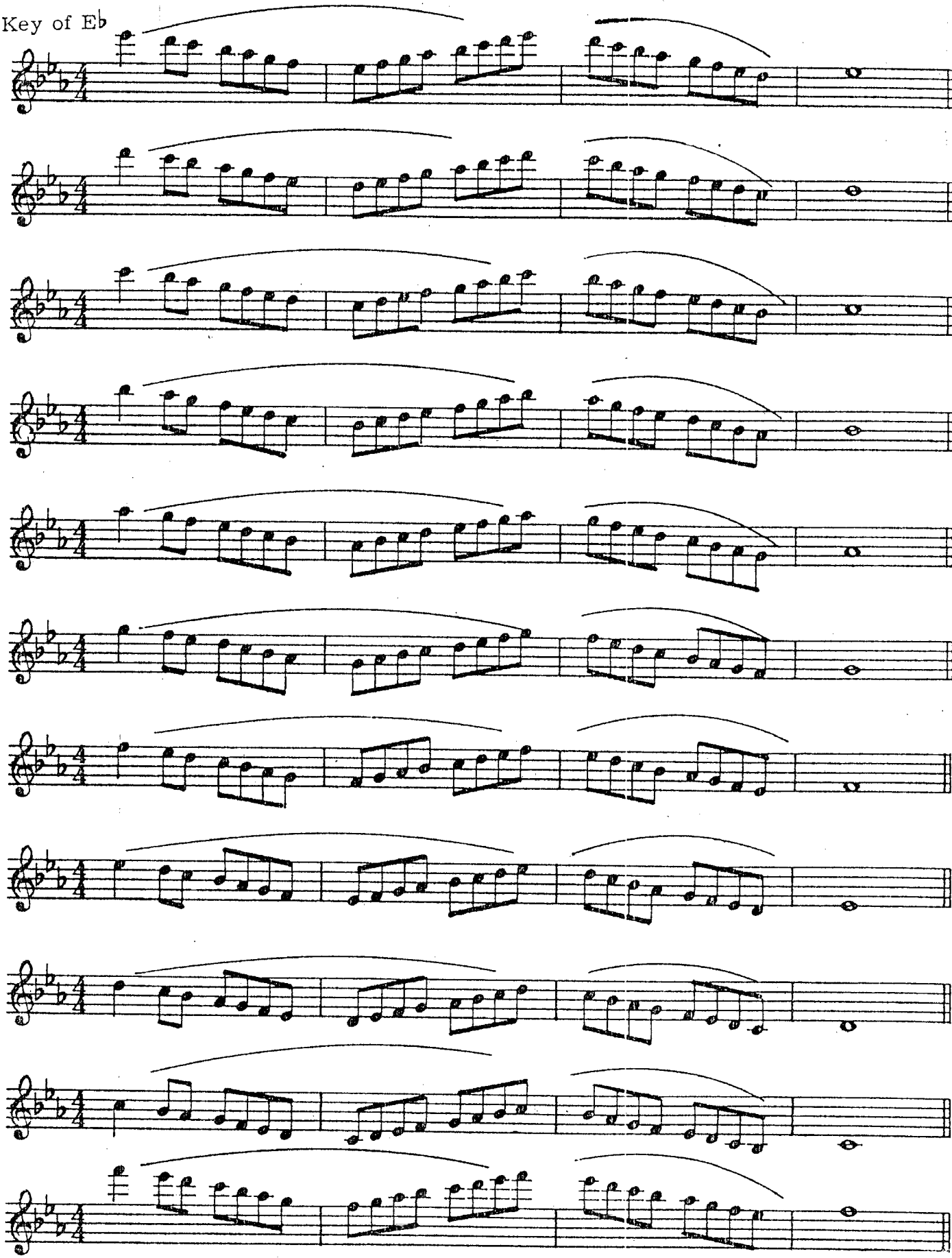

Key of A

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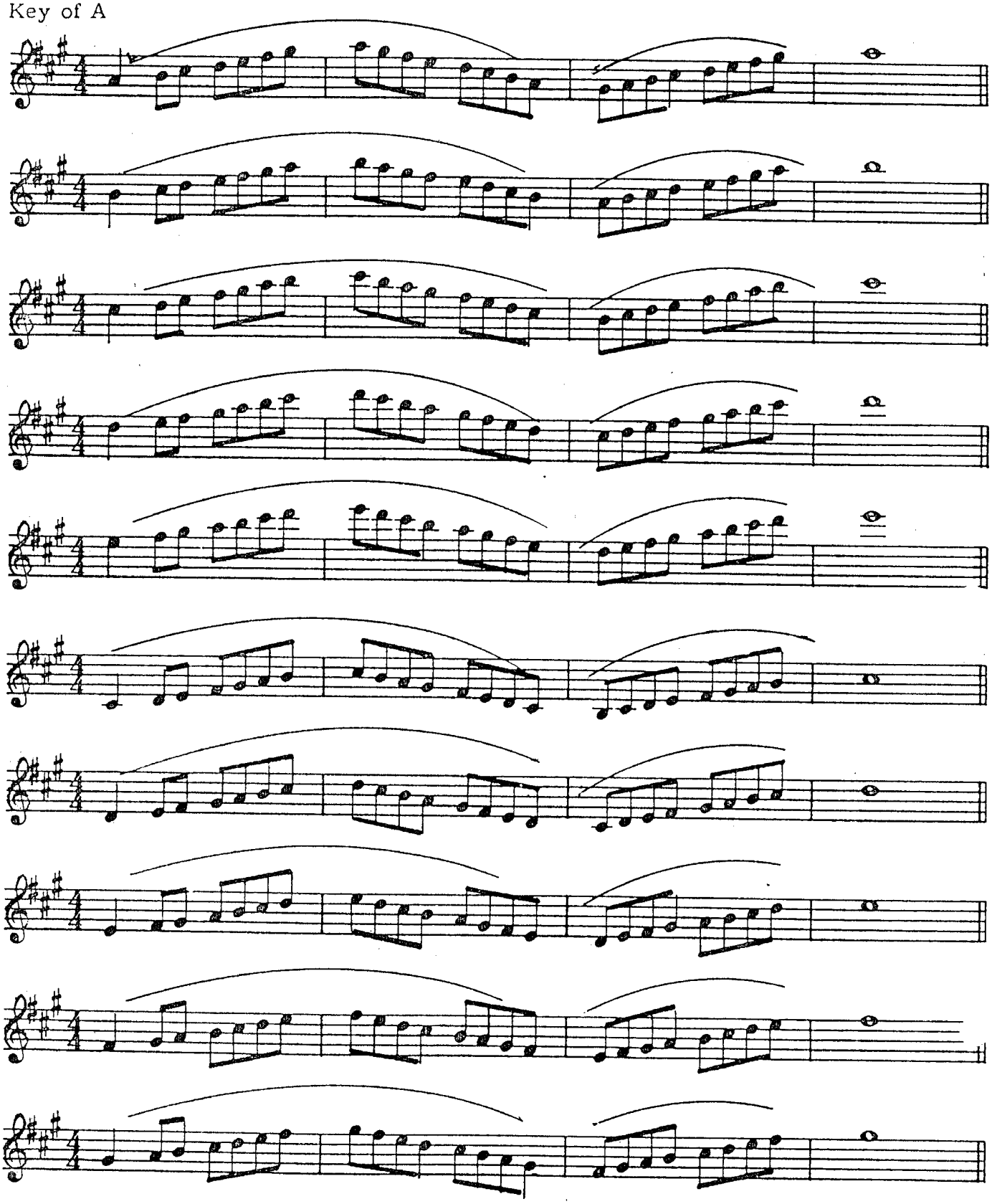

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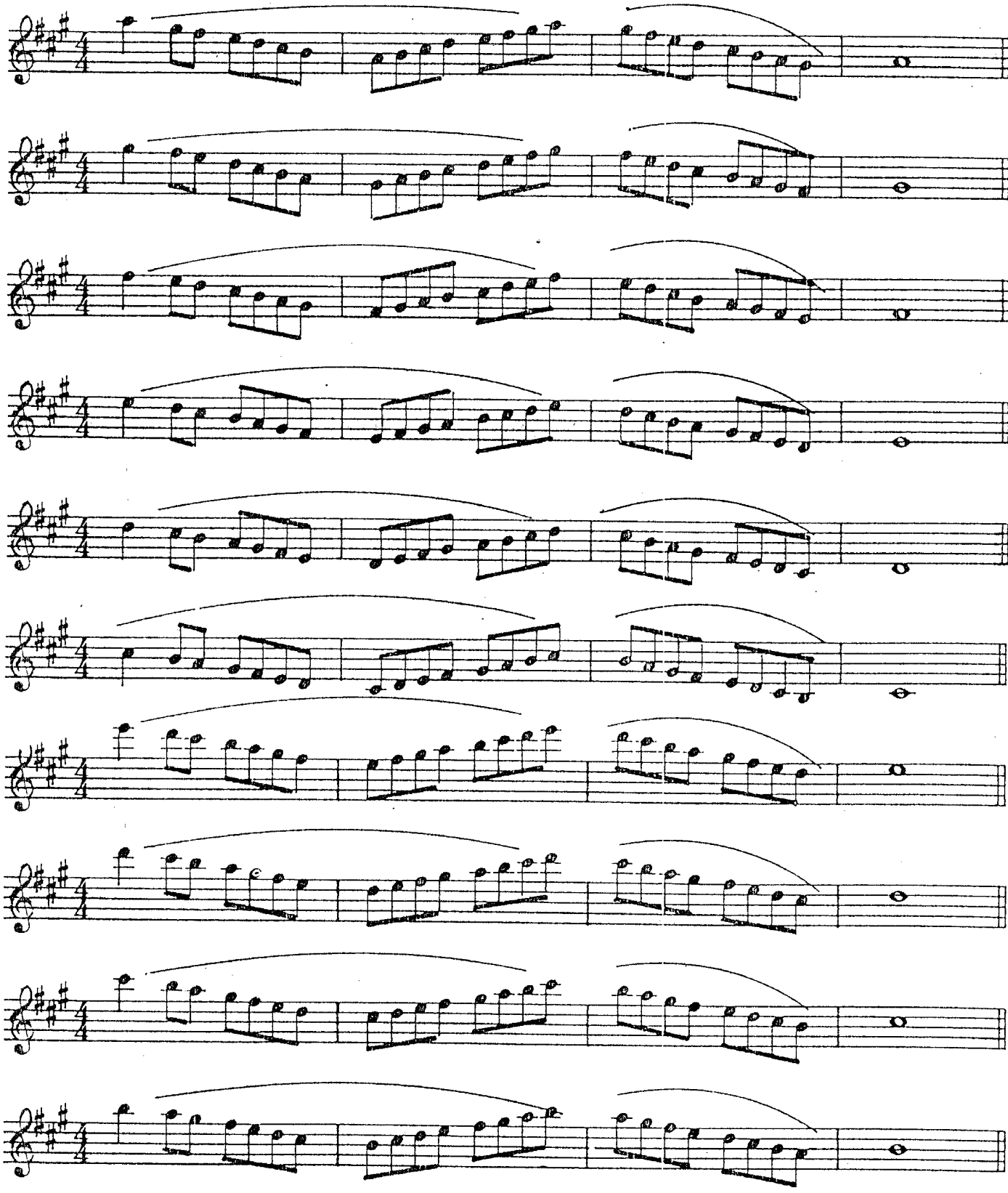

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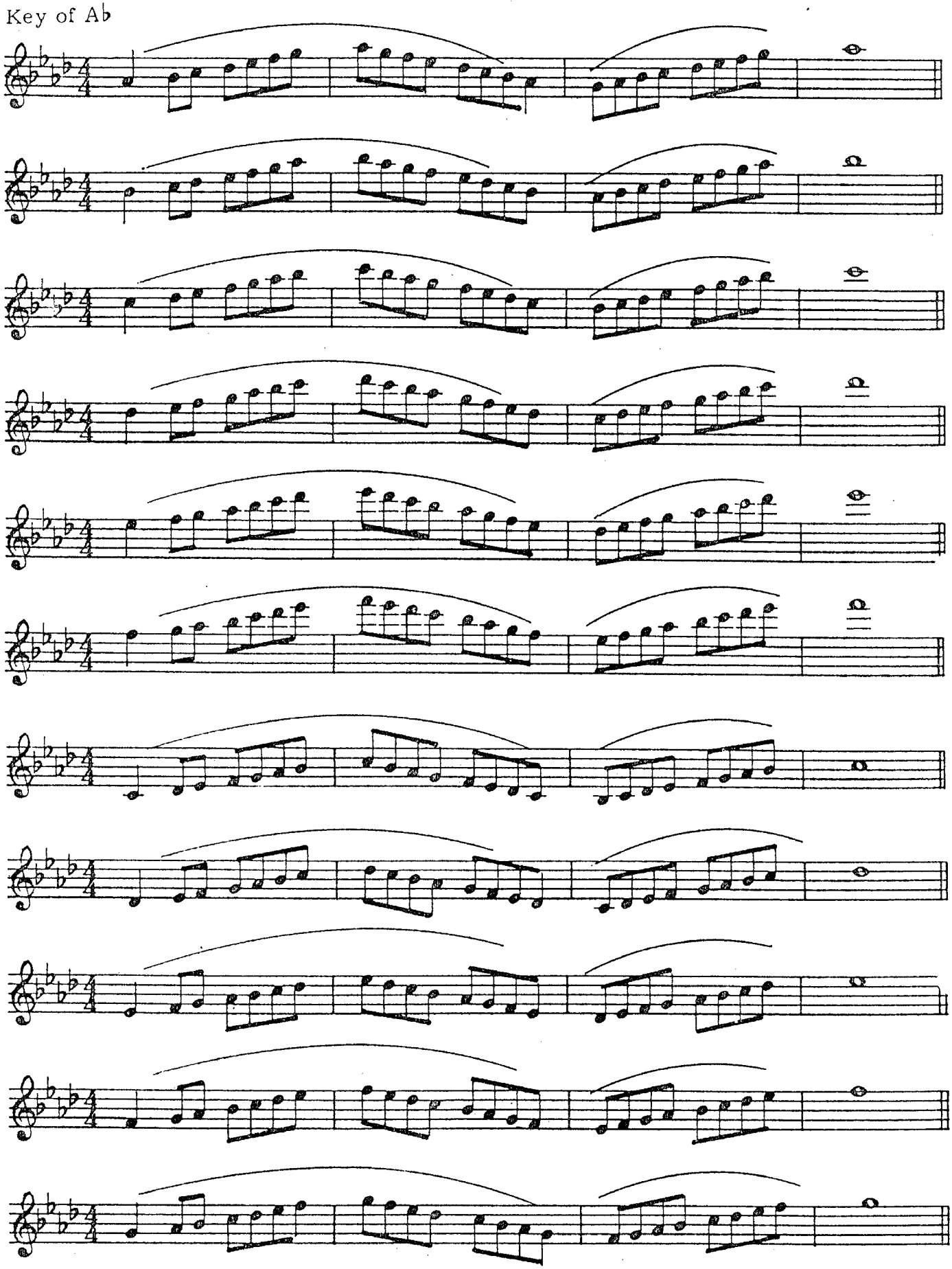

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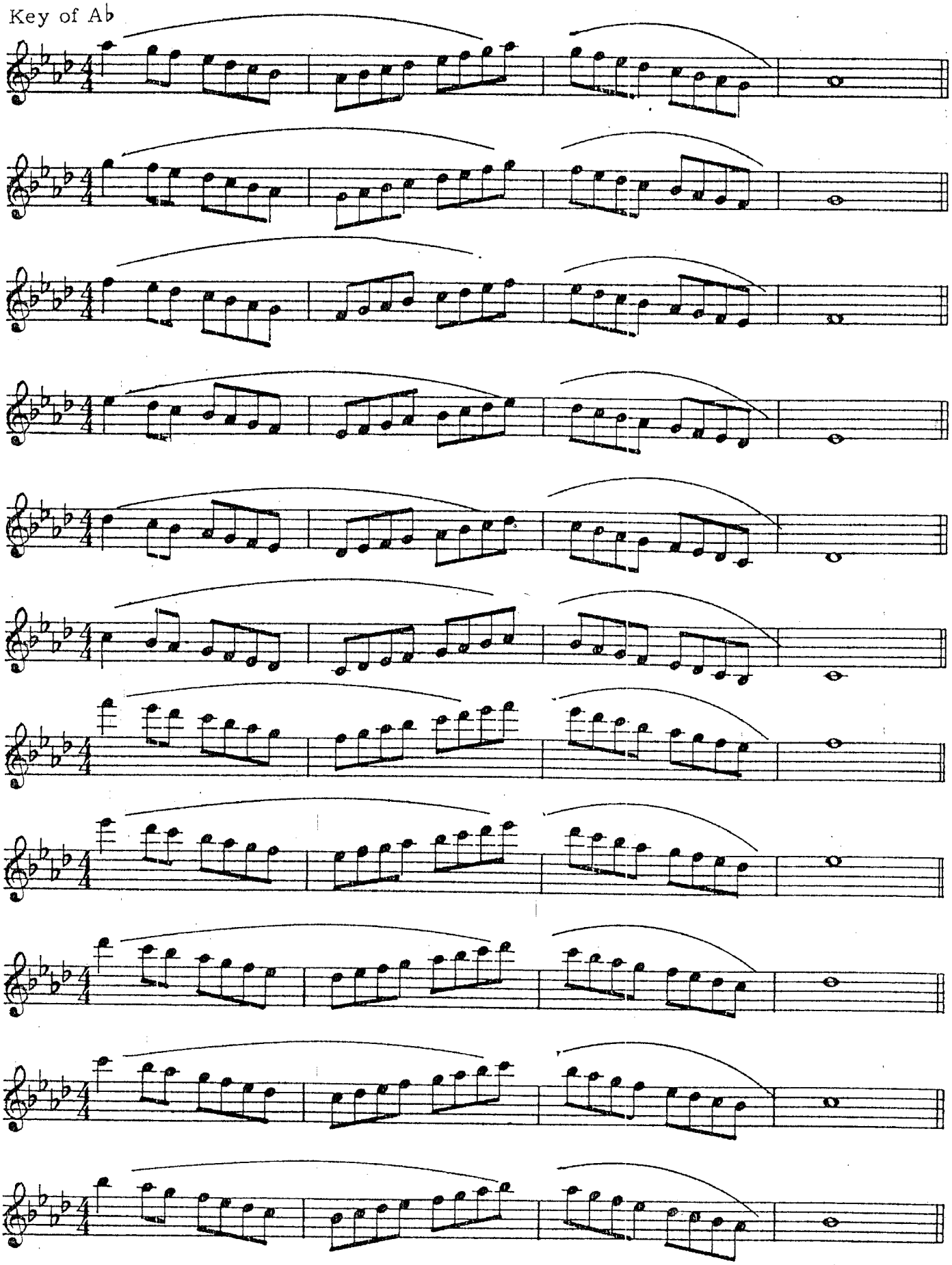

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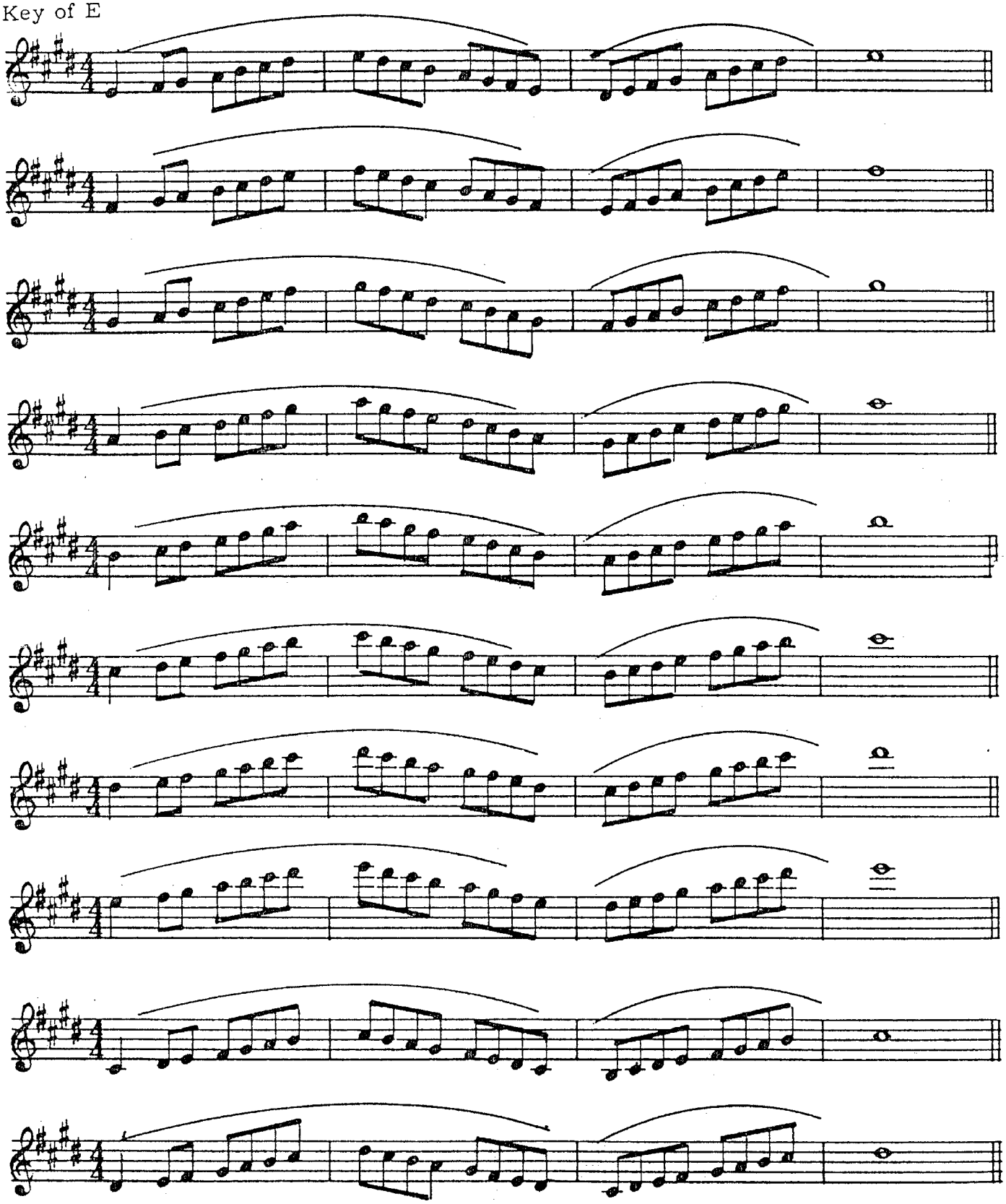

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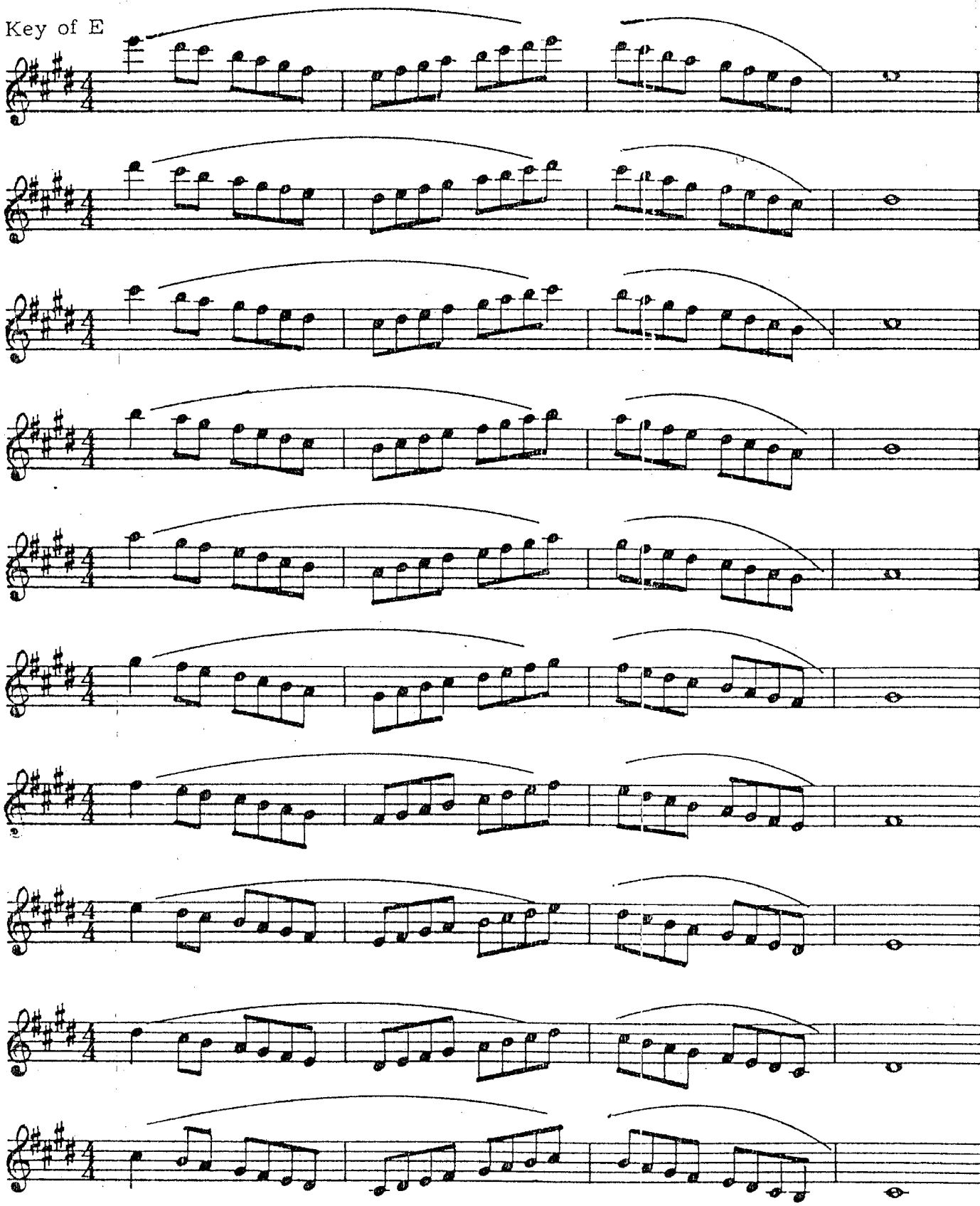

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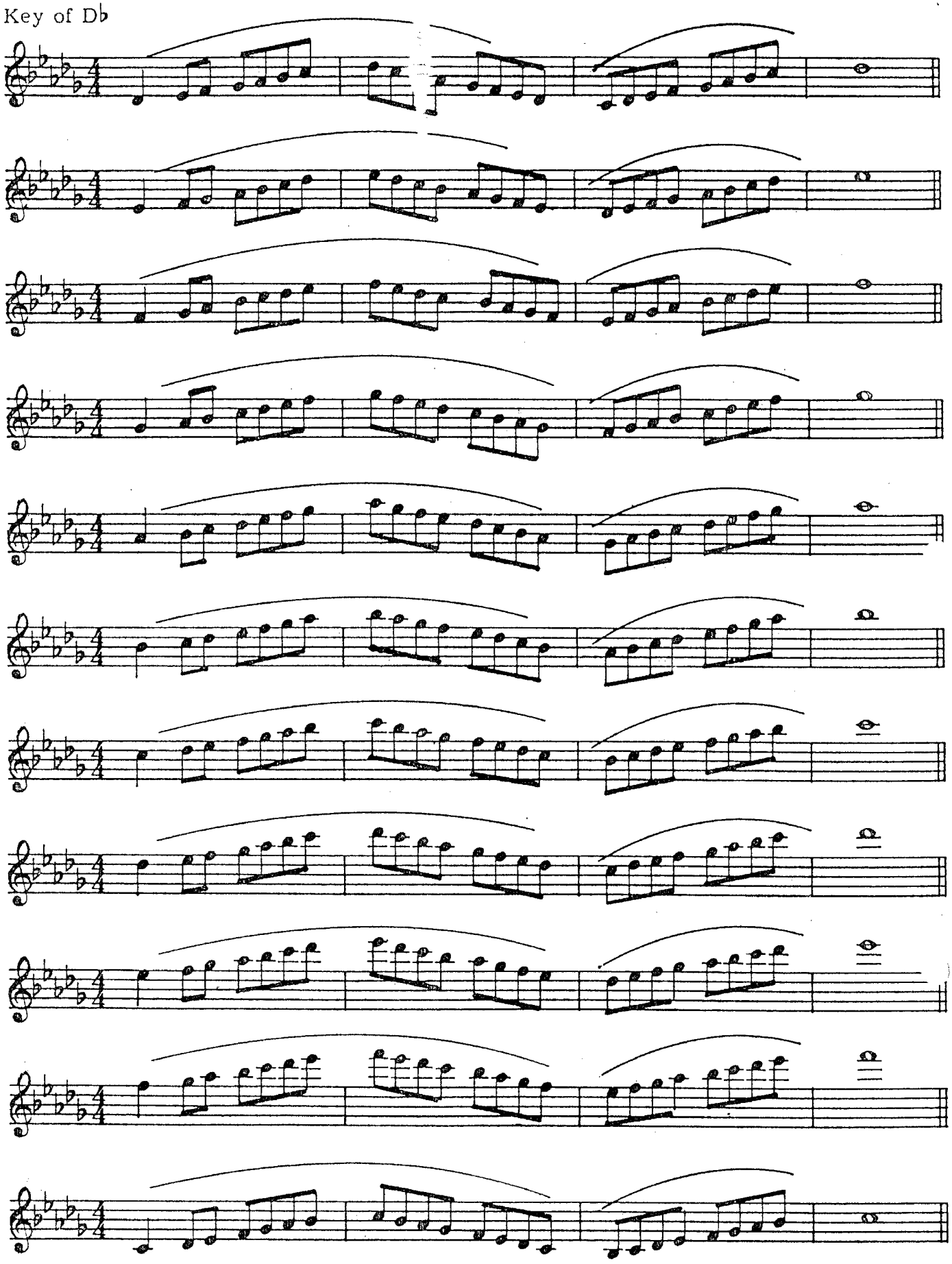

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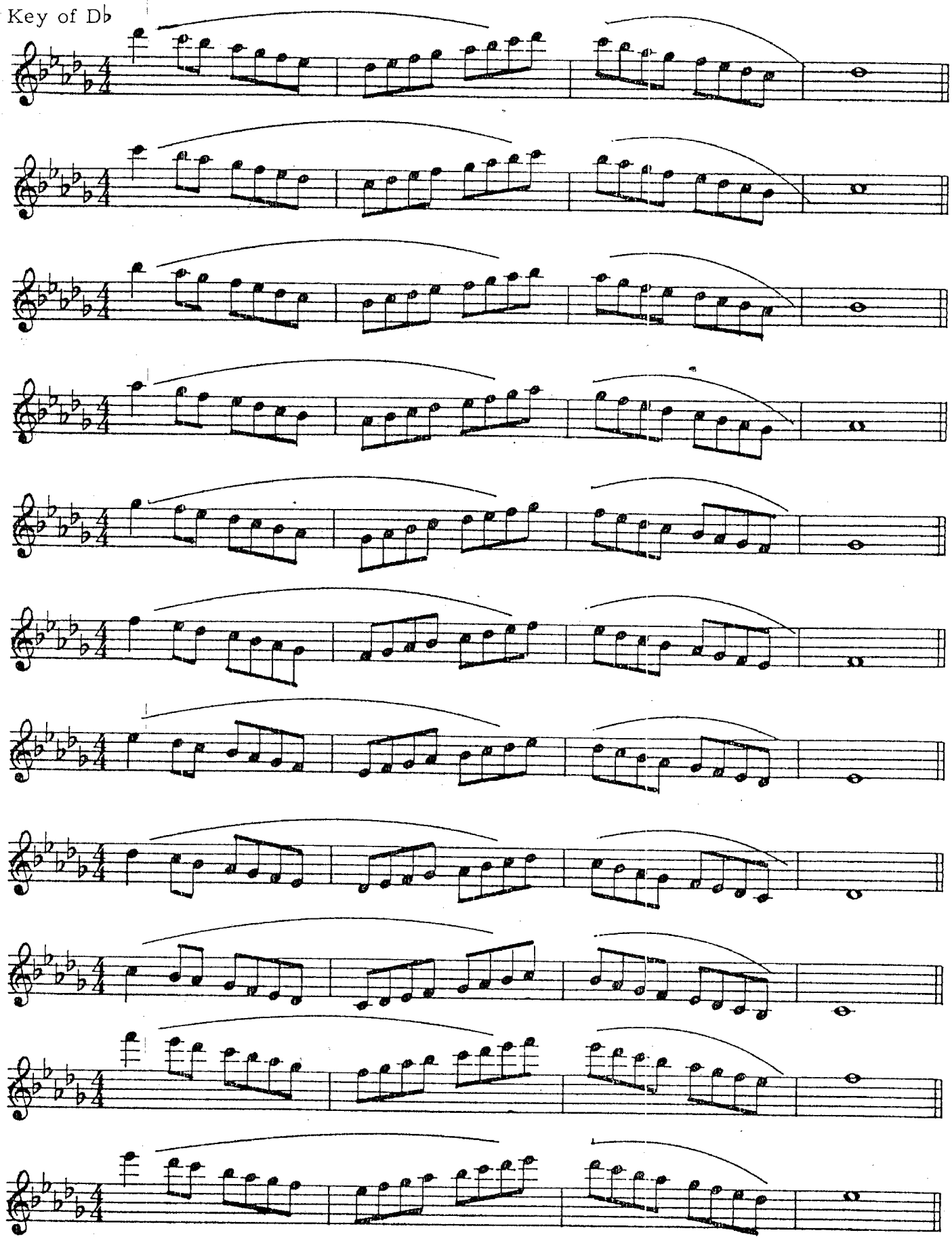

Key of B

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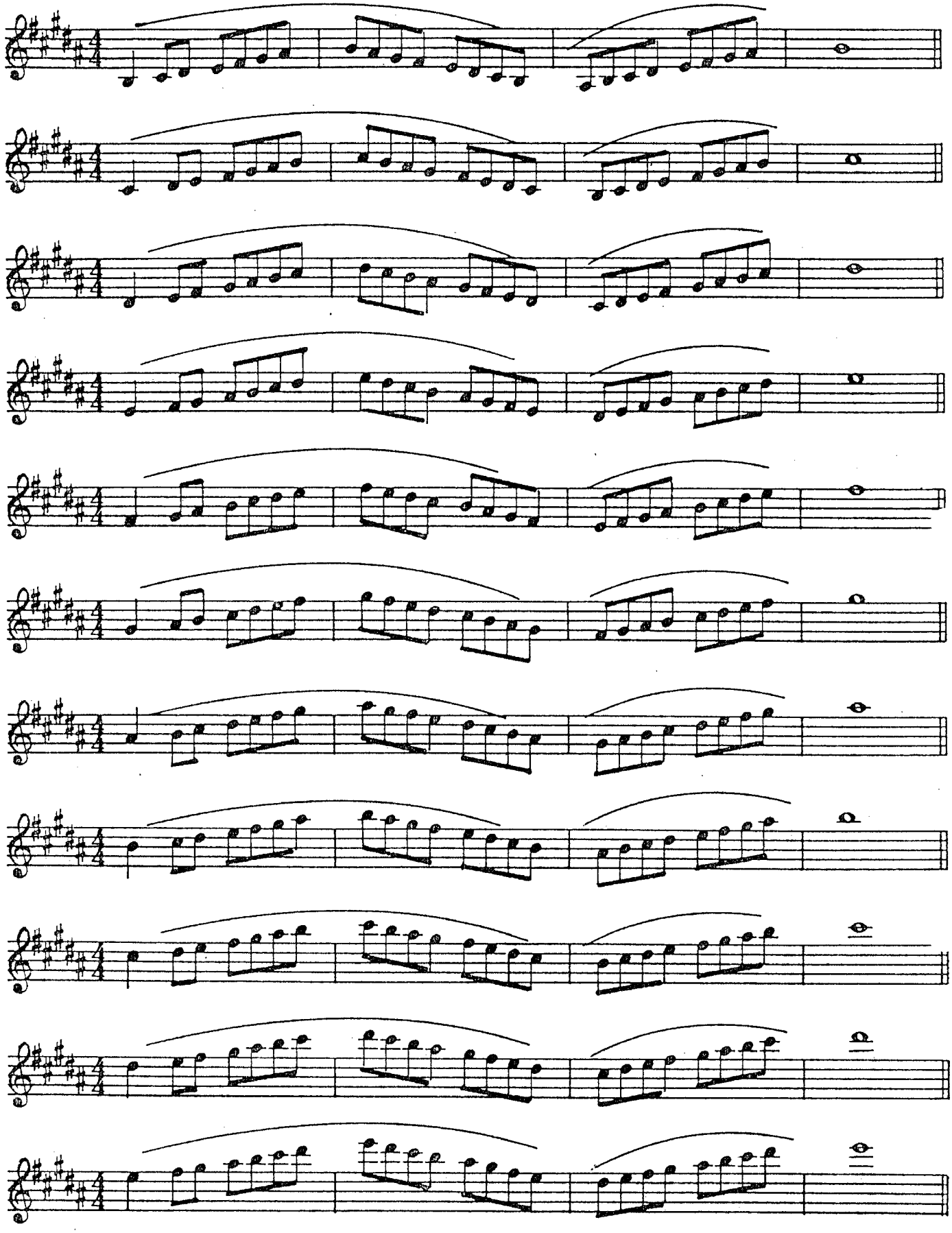

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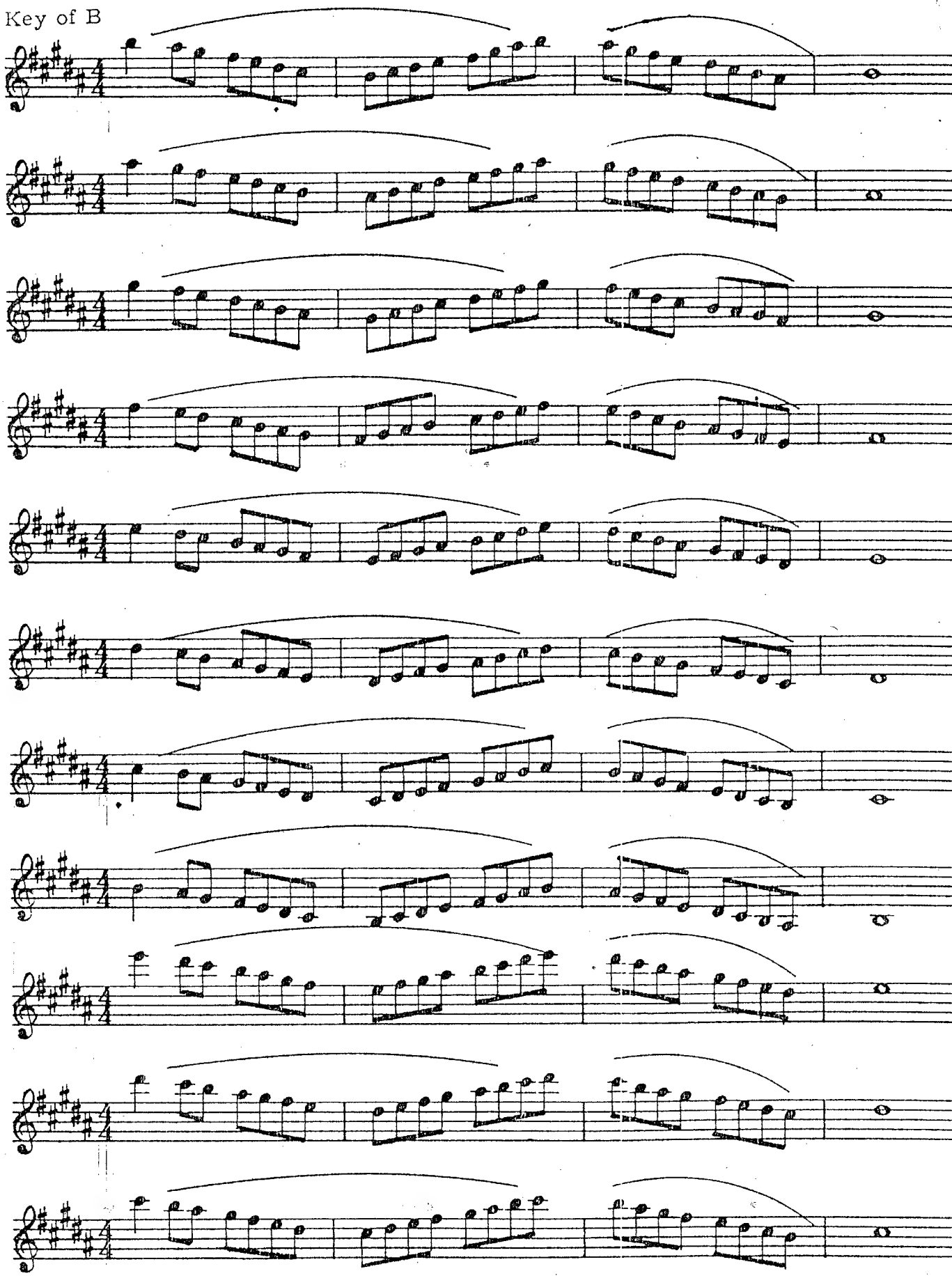

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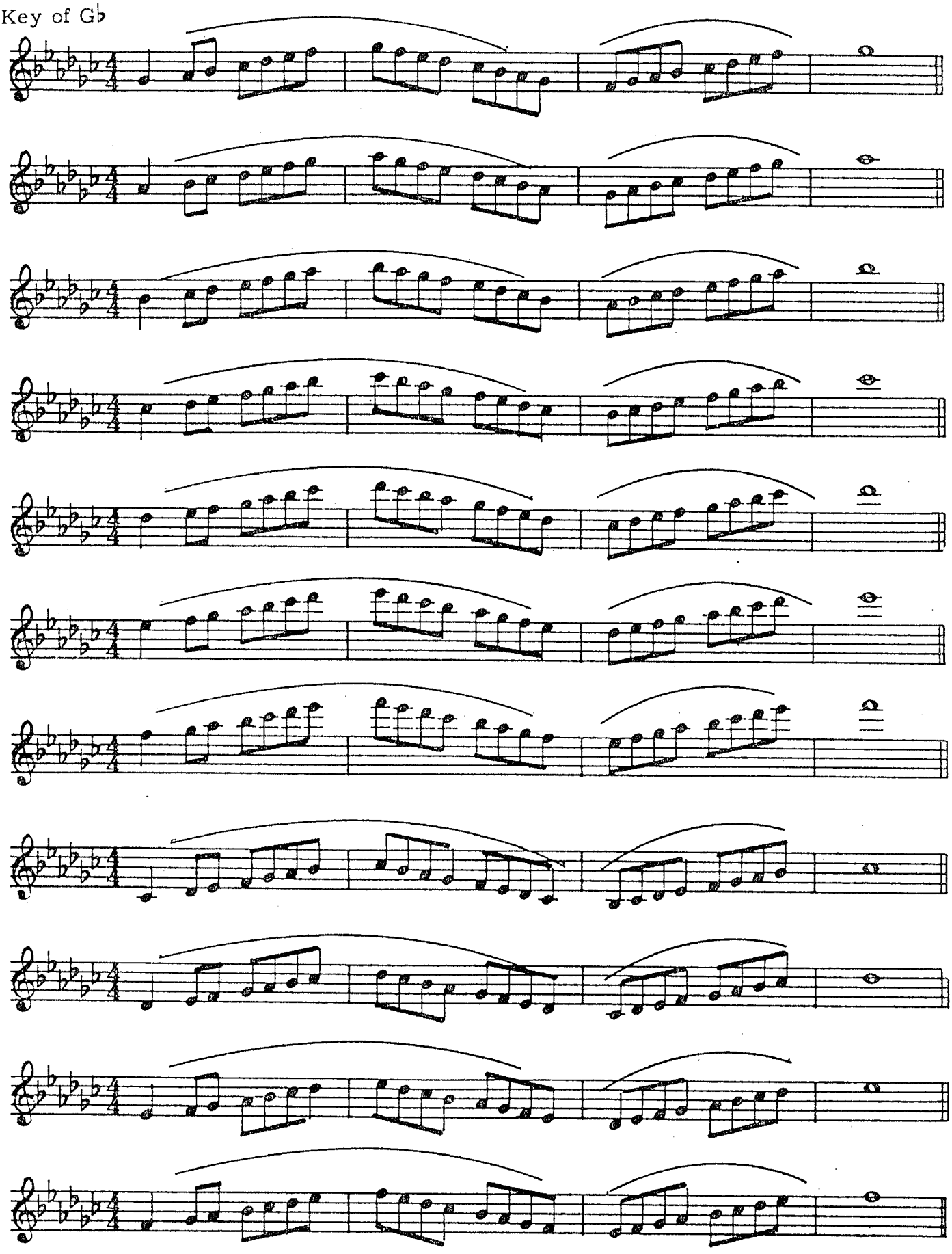
Key of Gb



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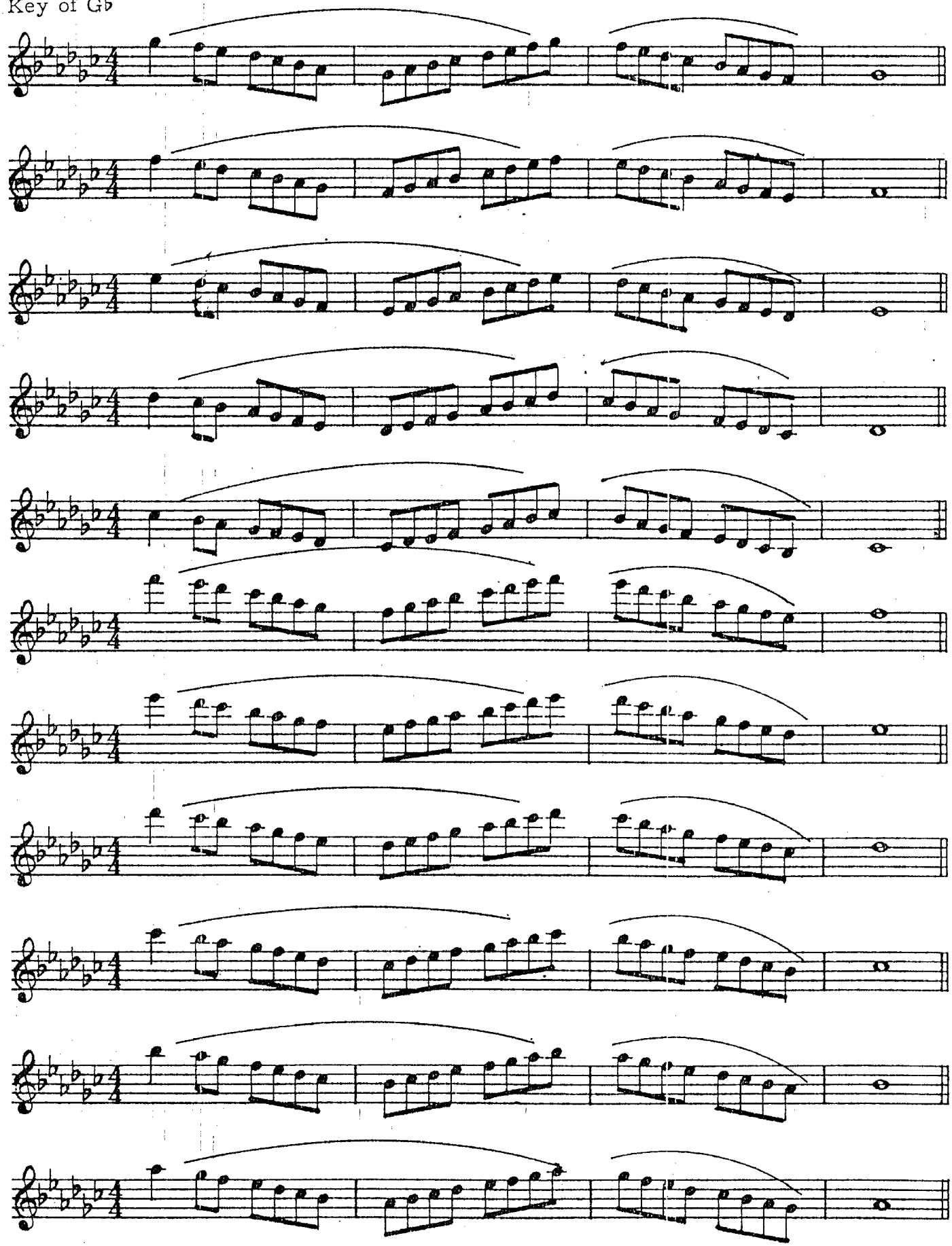

Key of F♯

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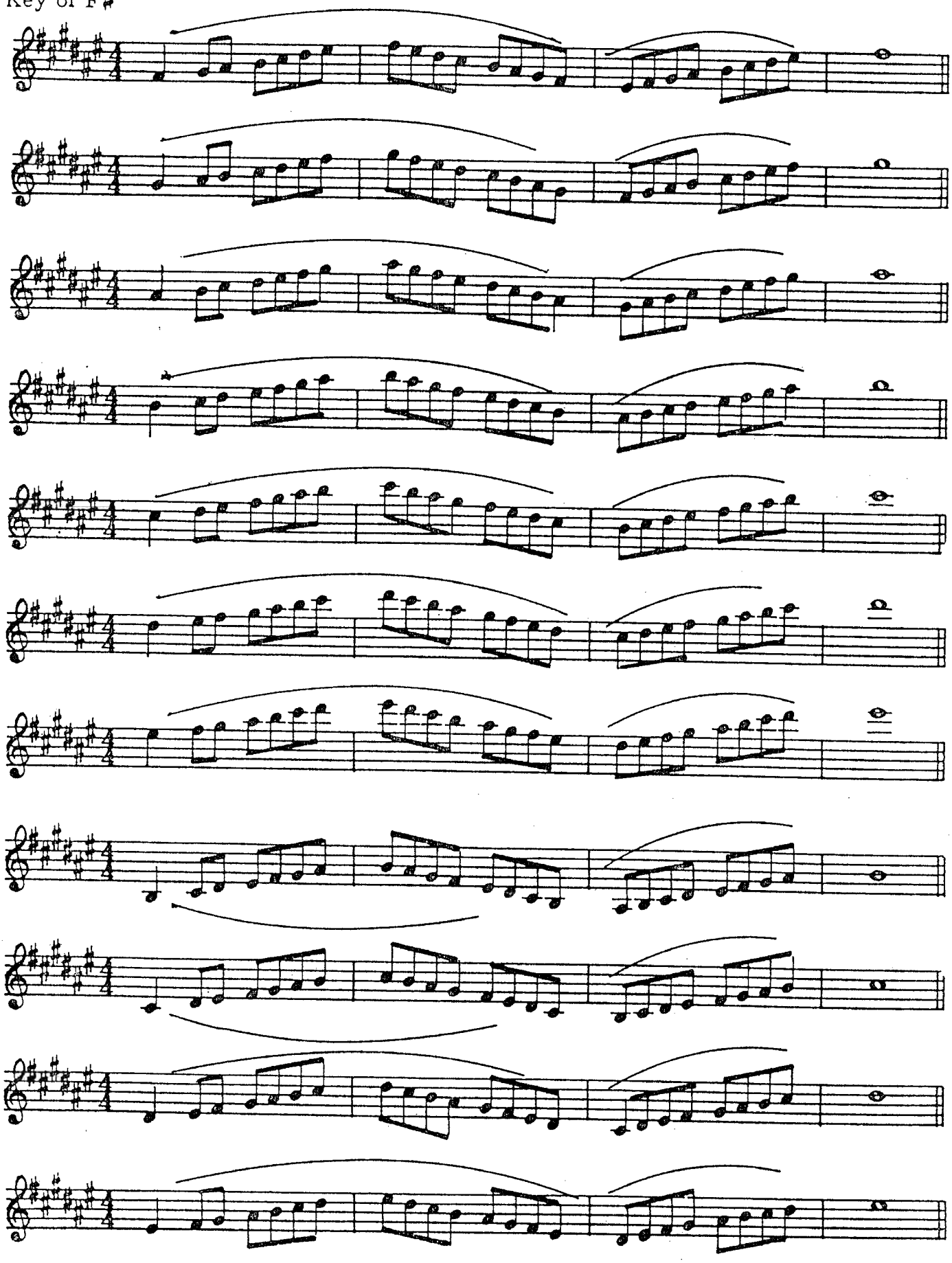

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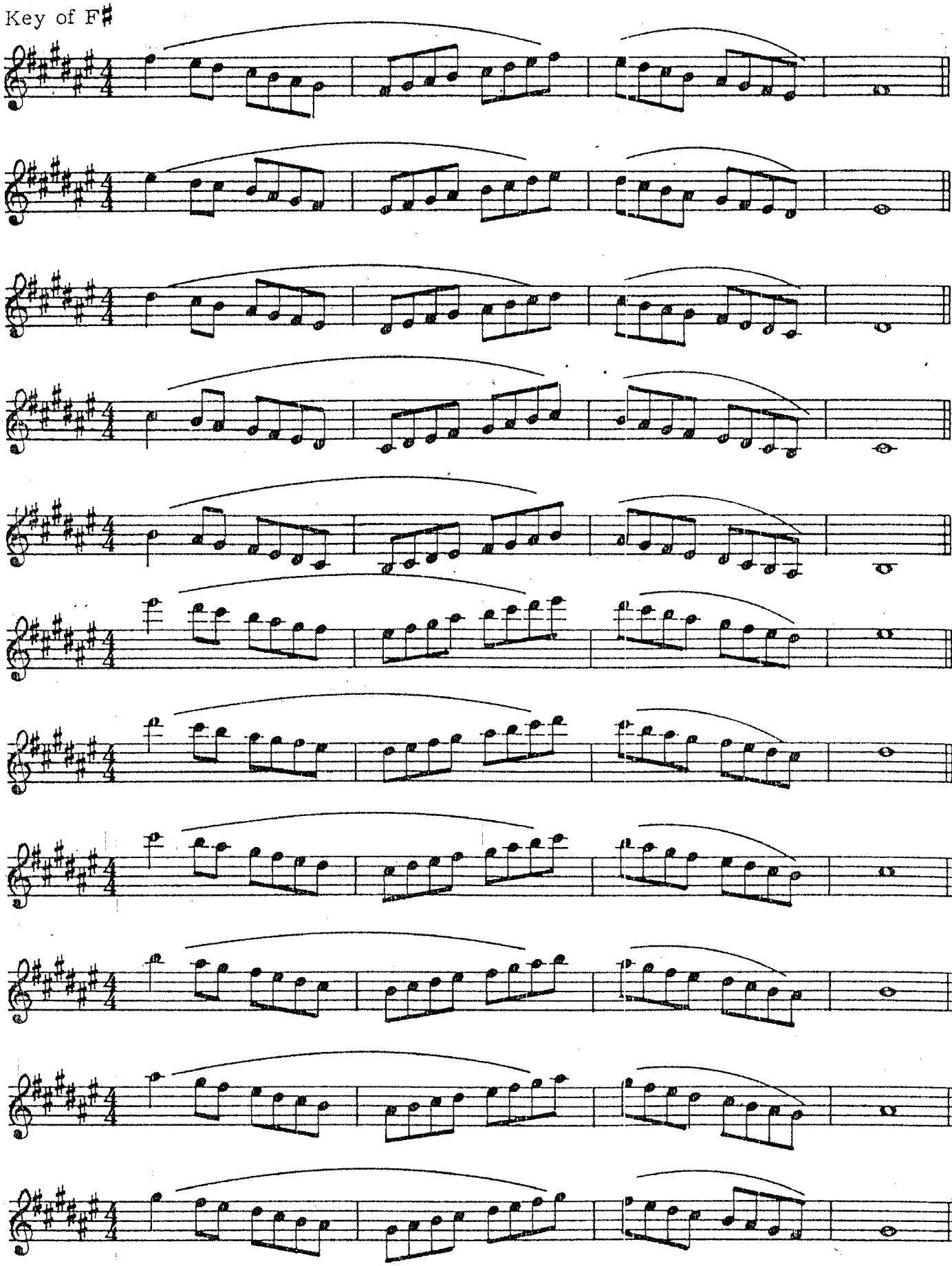

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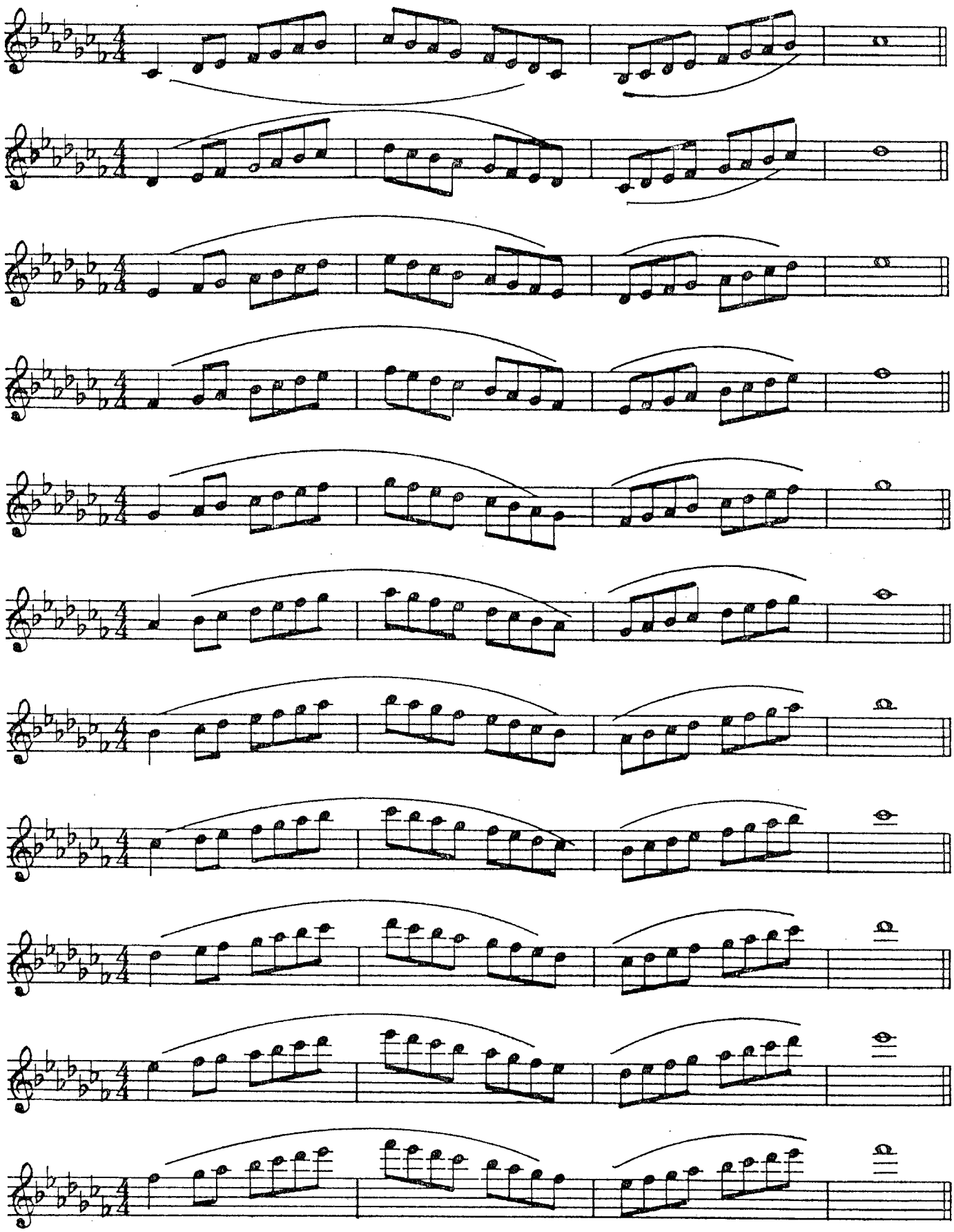
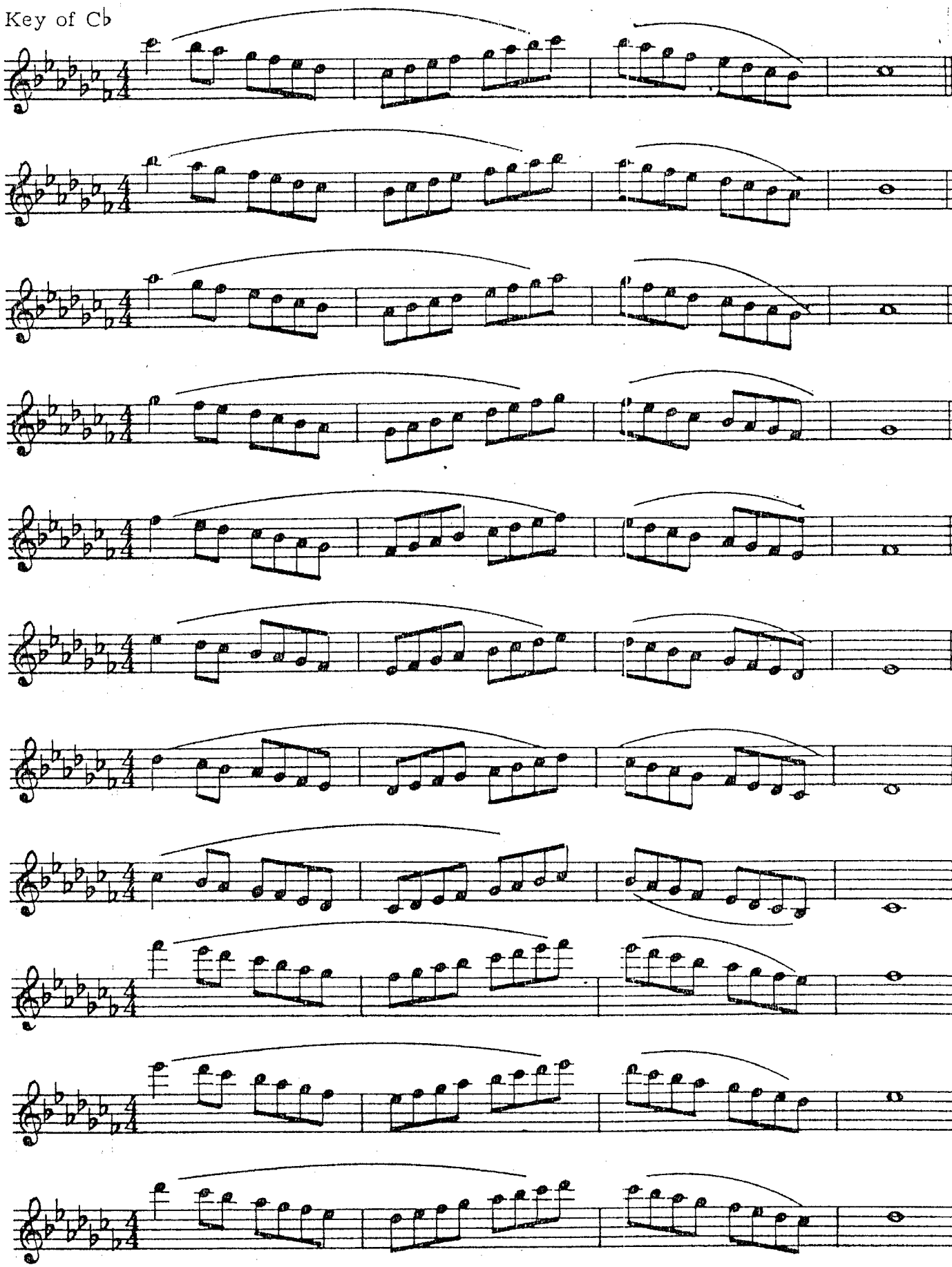


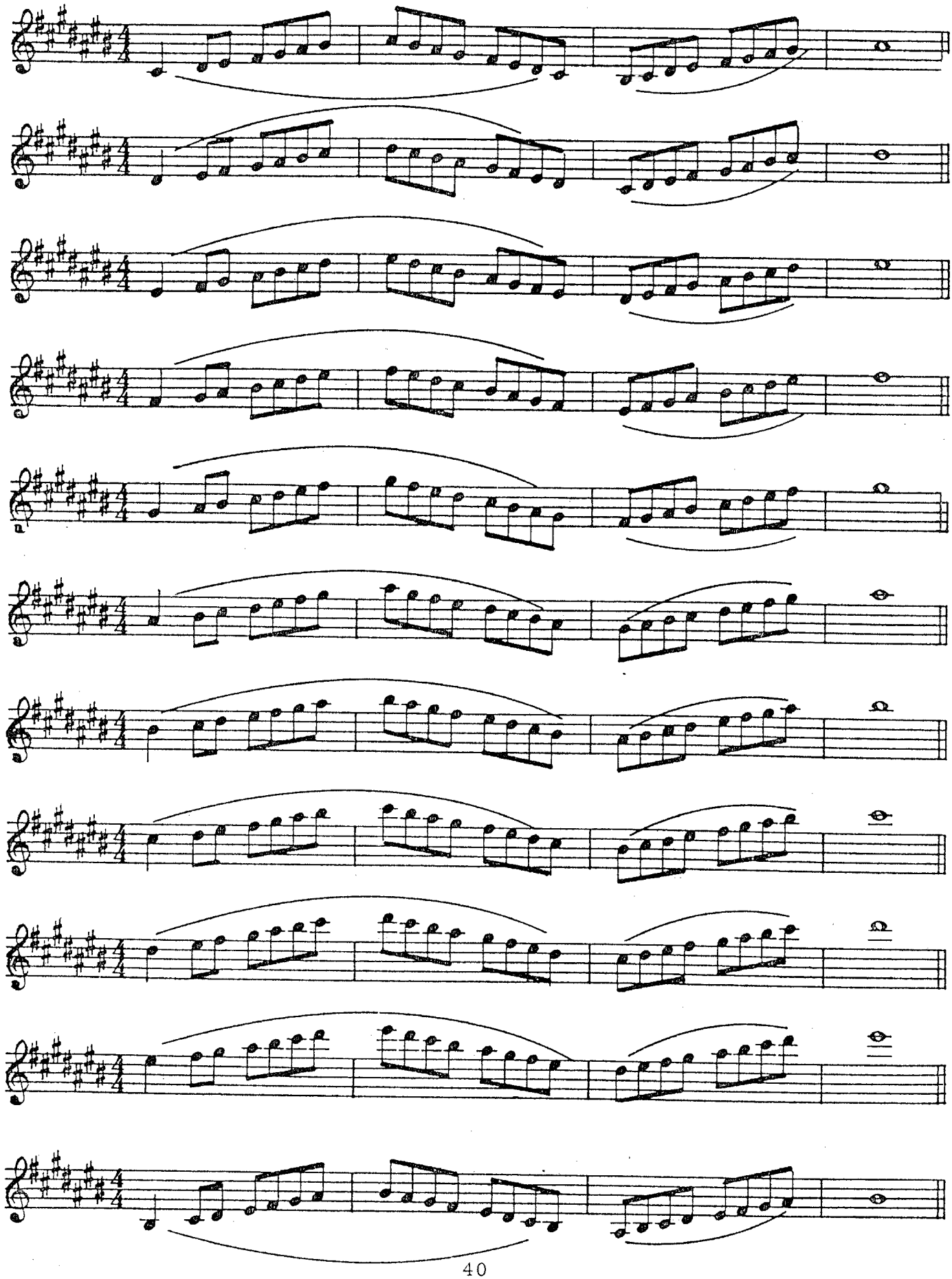
Key of C♭

43



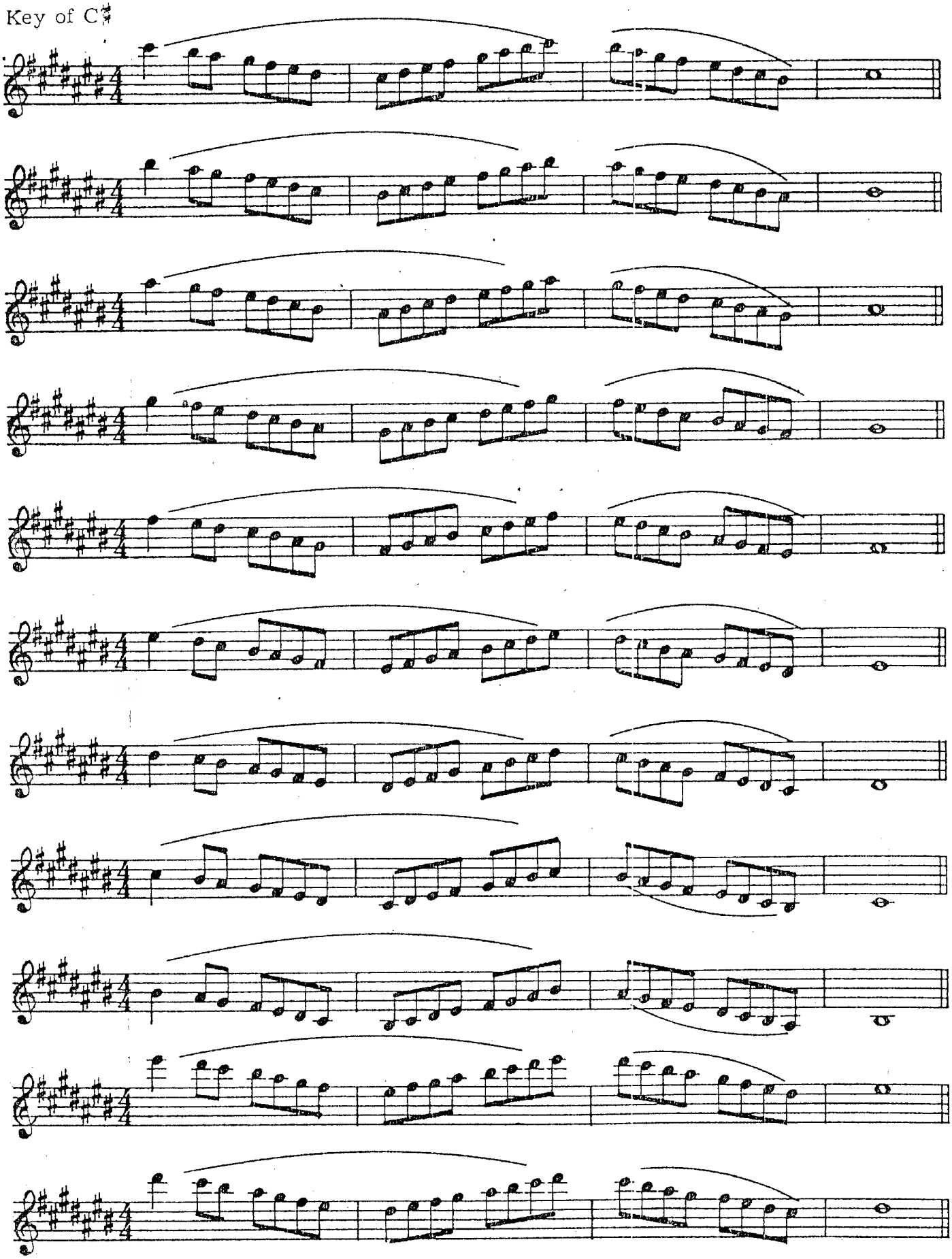
Key of C♯

44



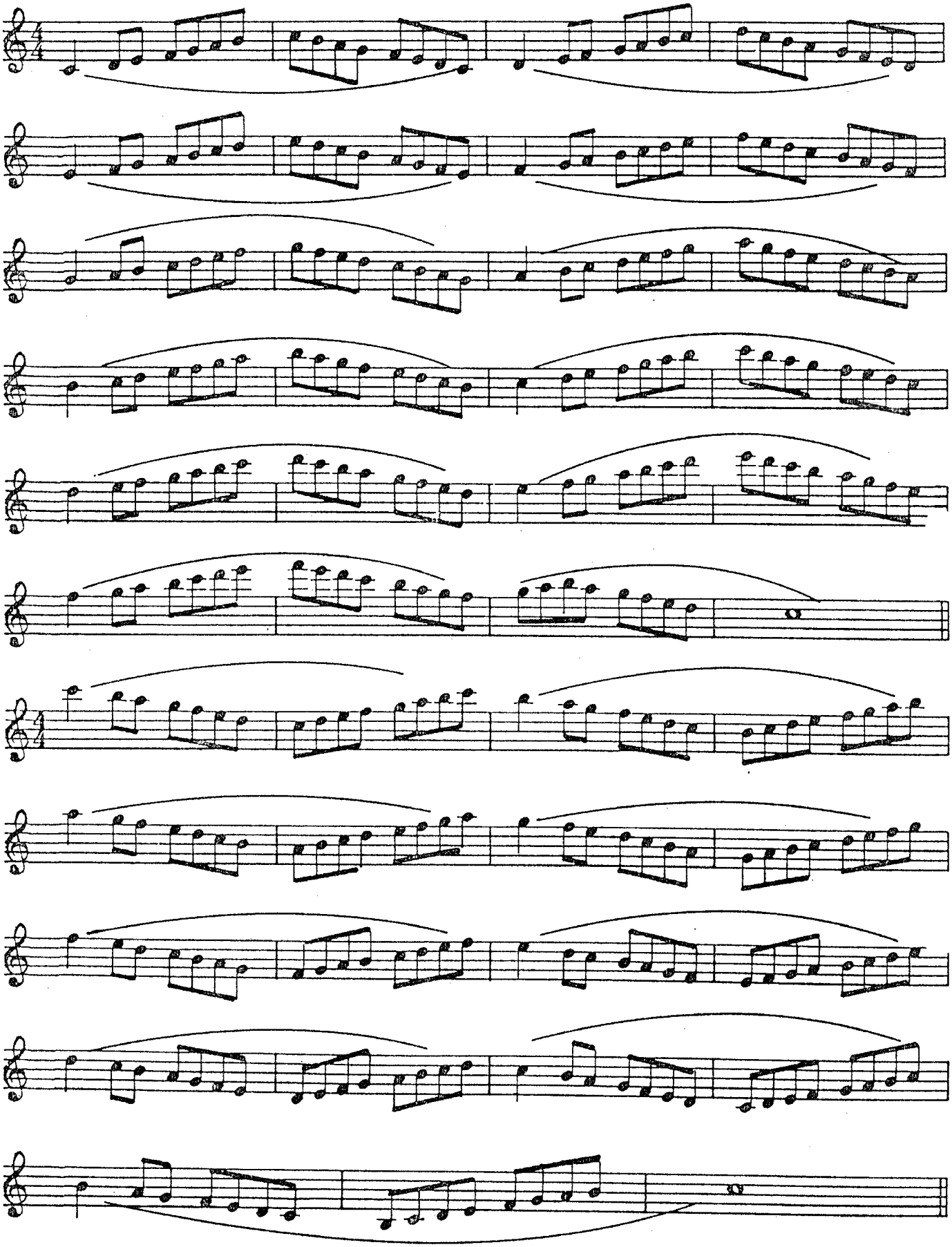
Key of C♯

45



Key of C

46



Key of F

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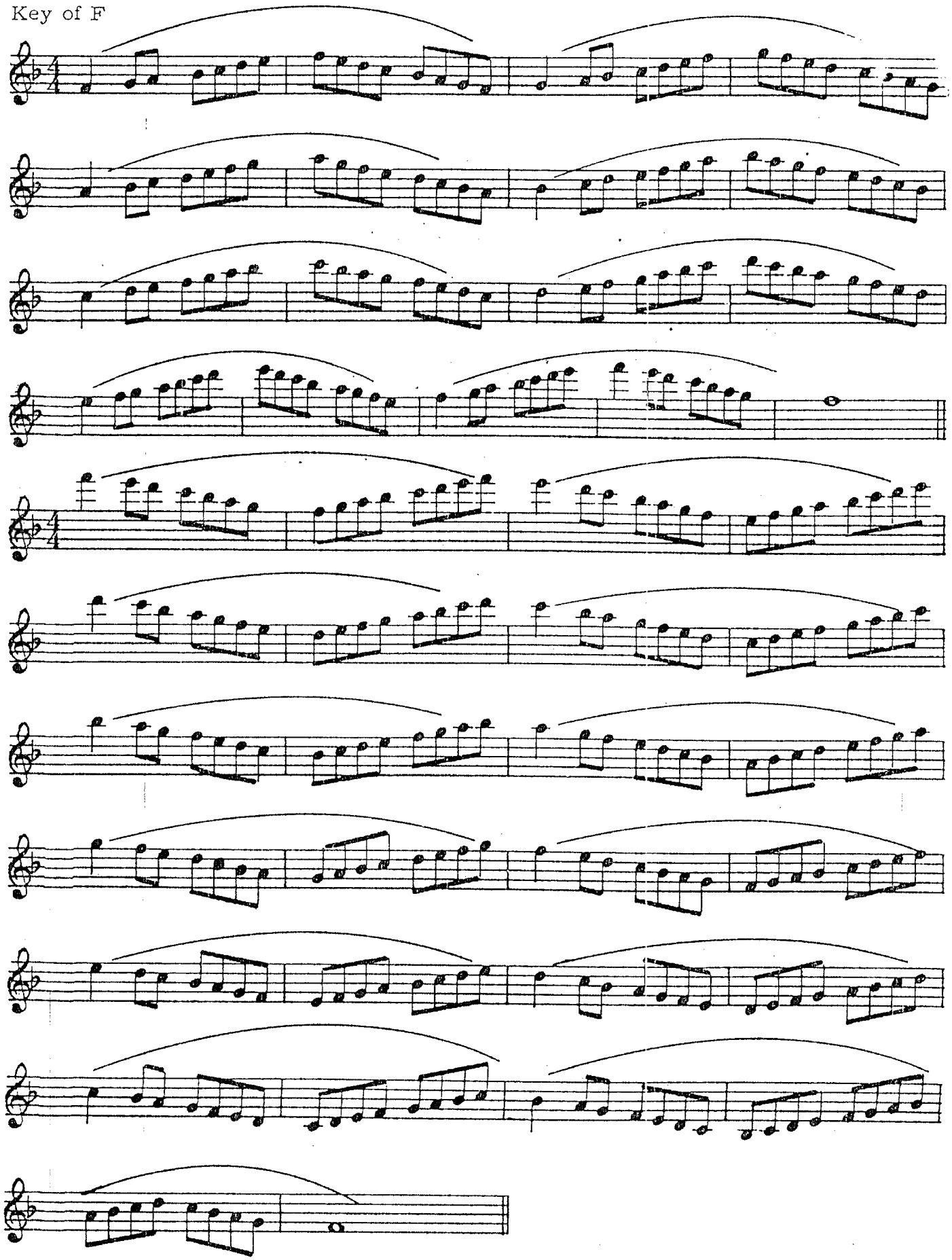

Key of G

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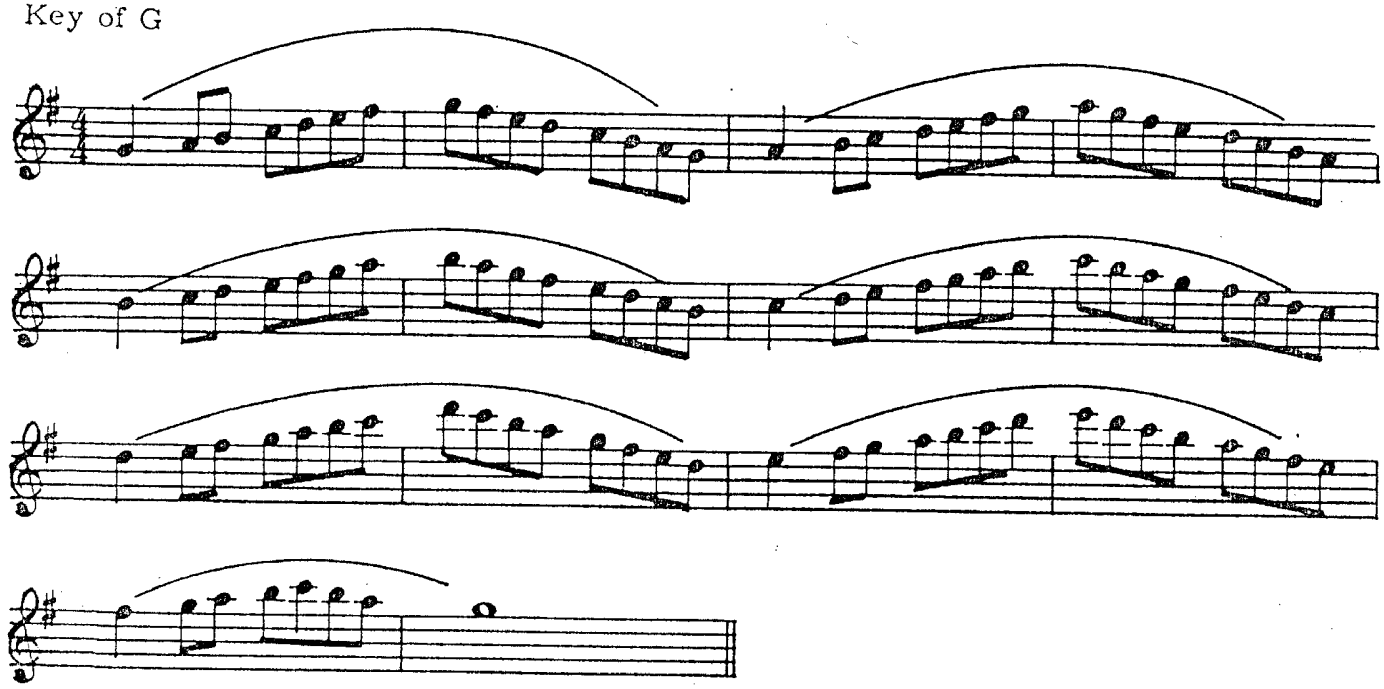

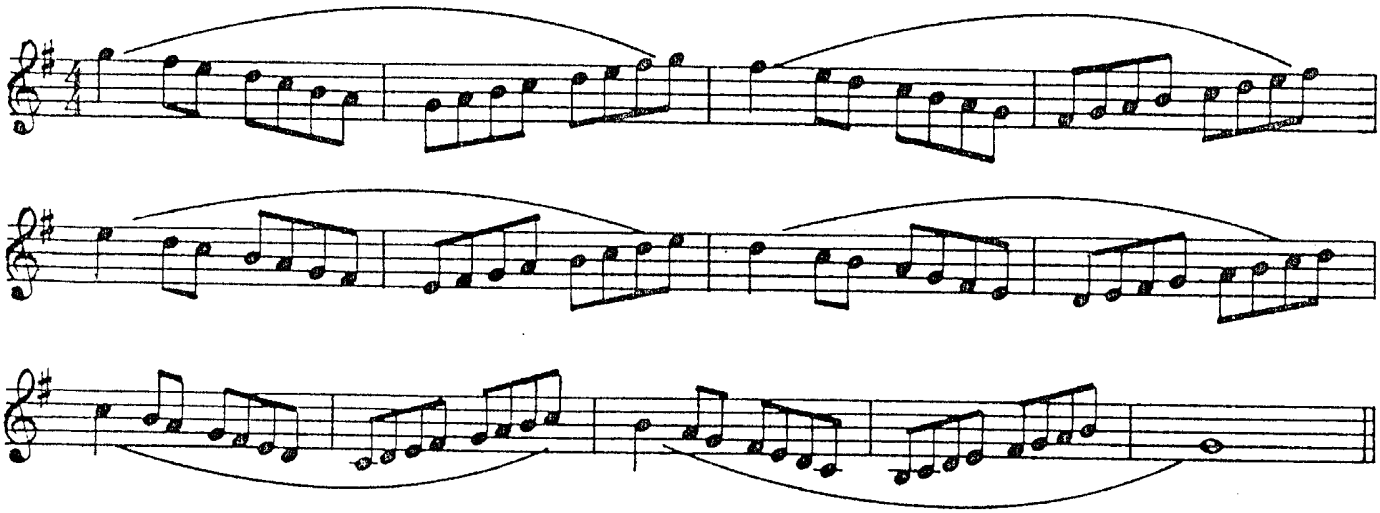

Key of B♭

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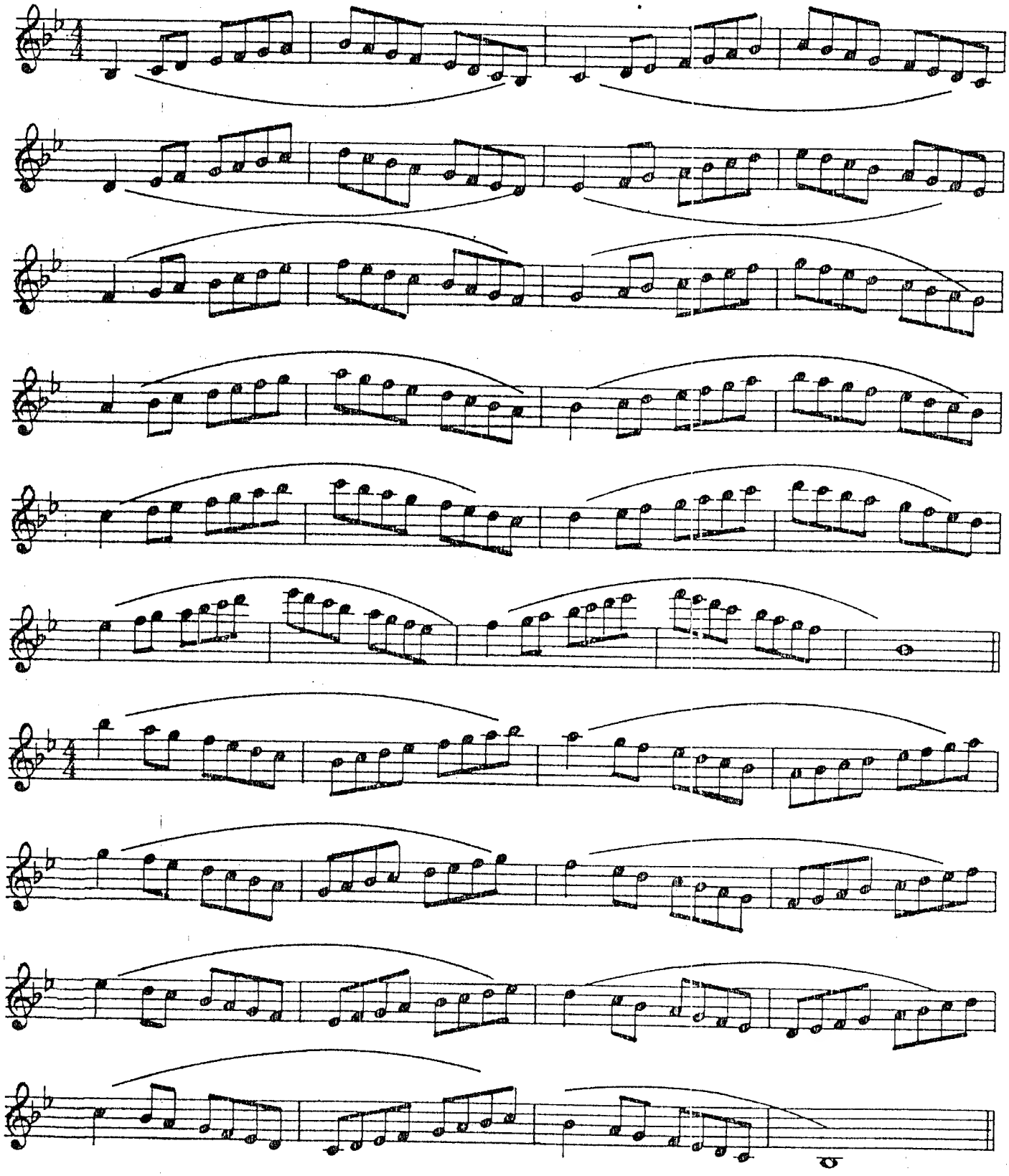

Key of D

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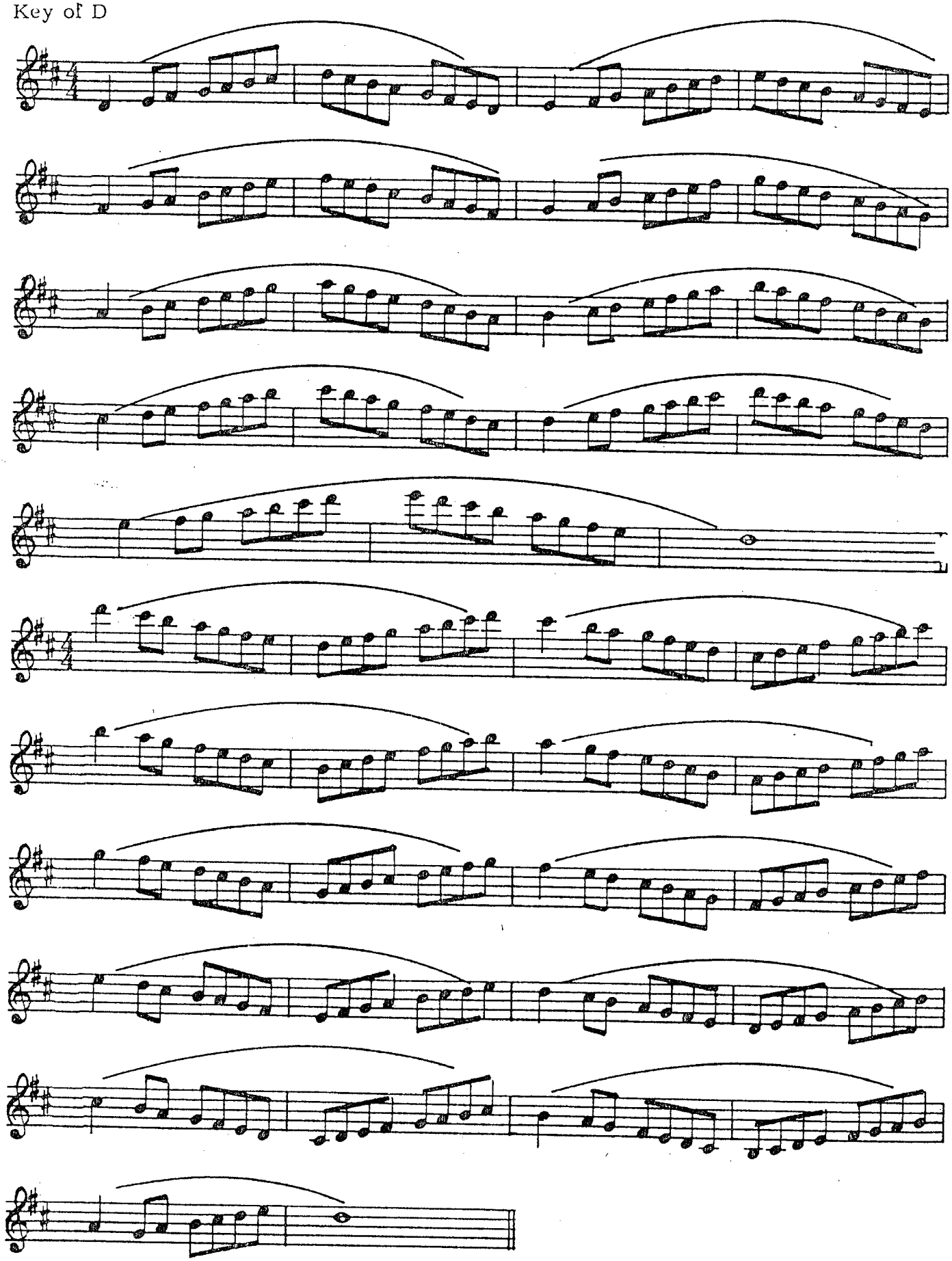

Key of Eb

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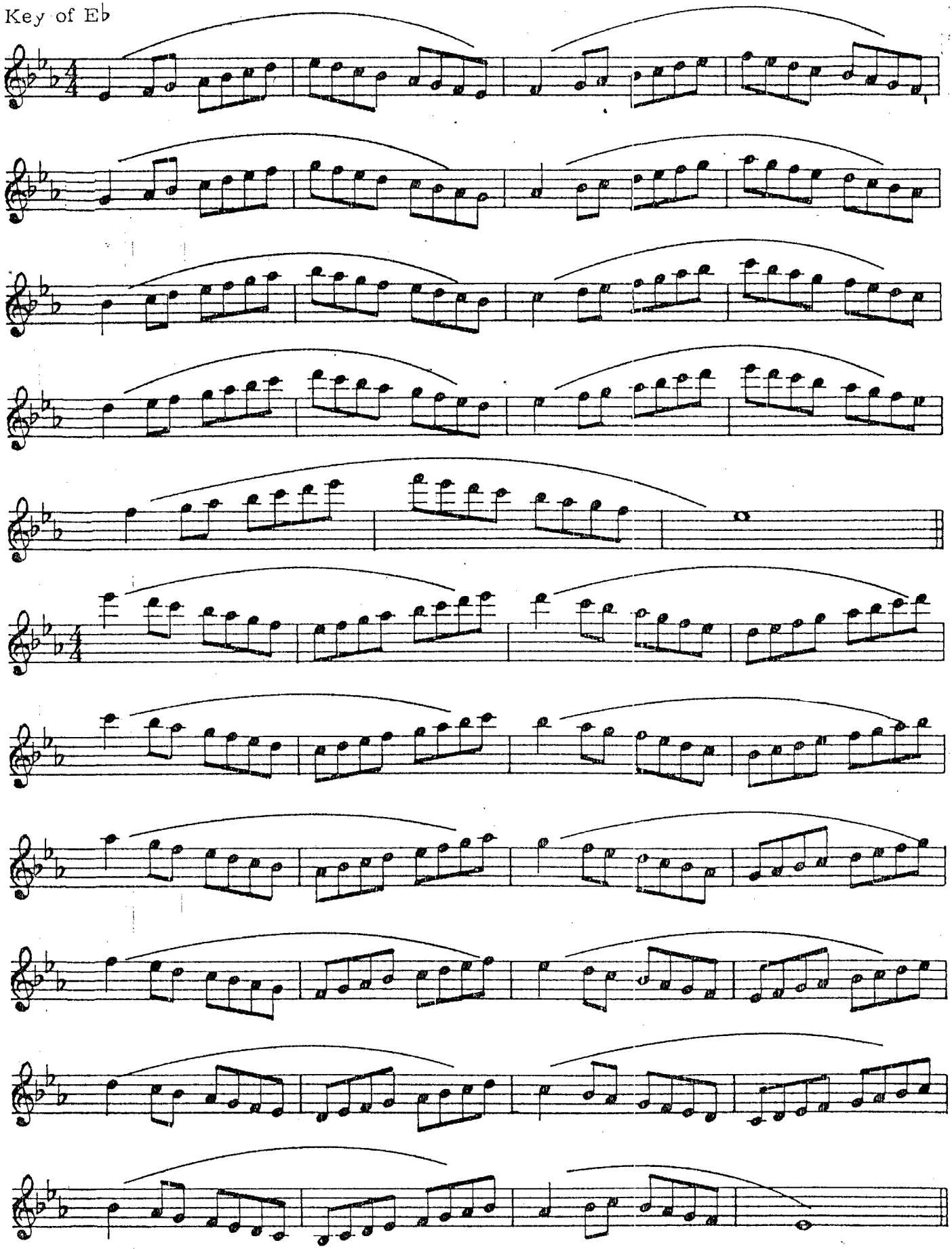

Key of A

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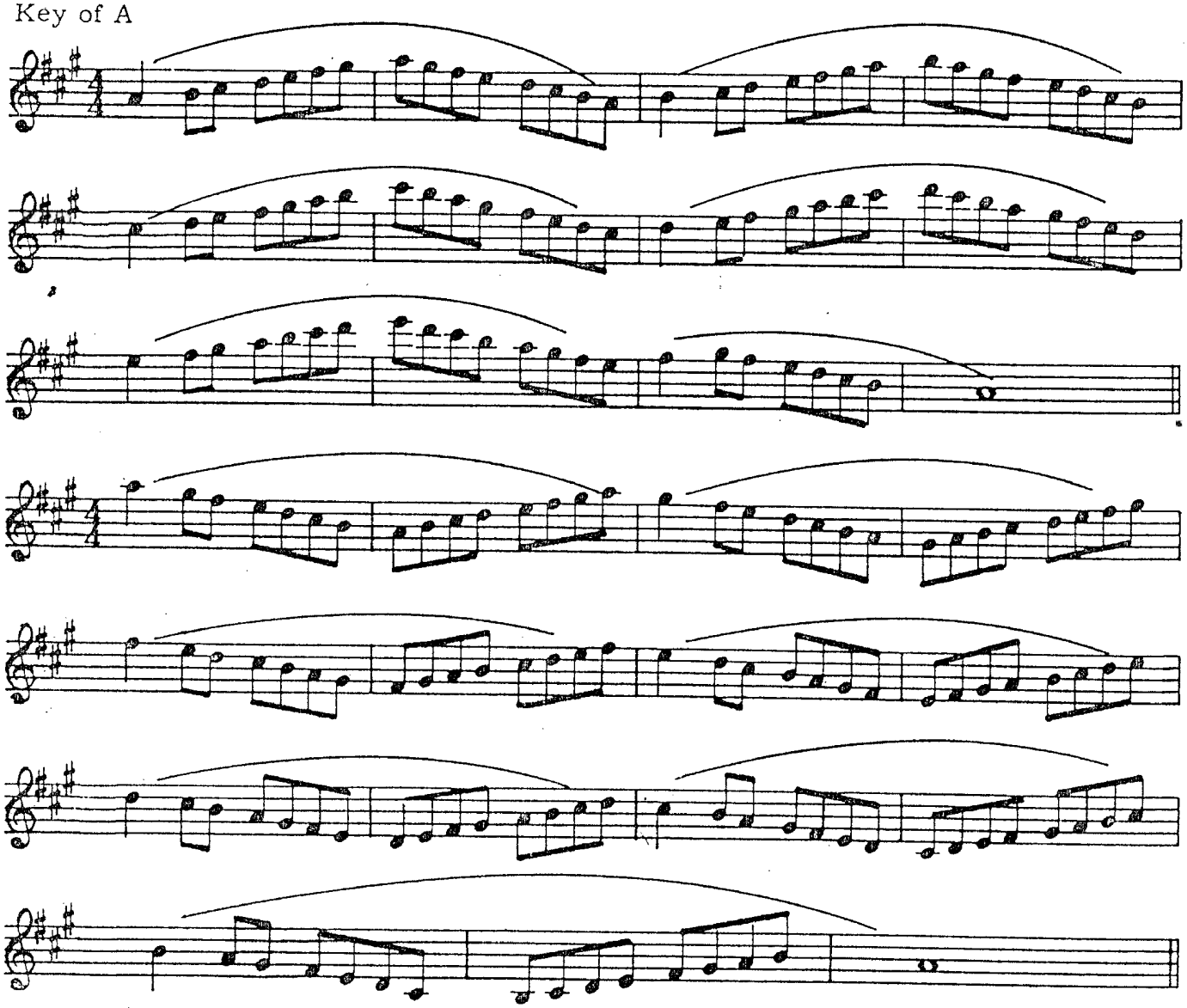

Key of Ab

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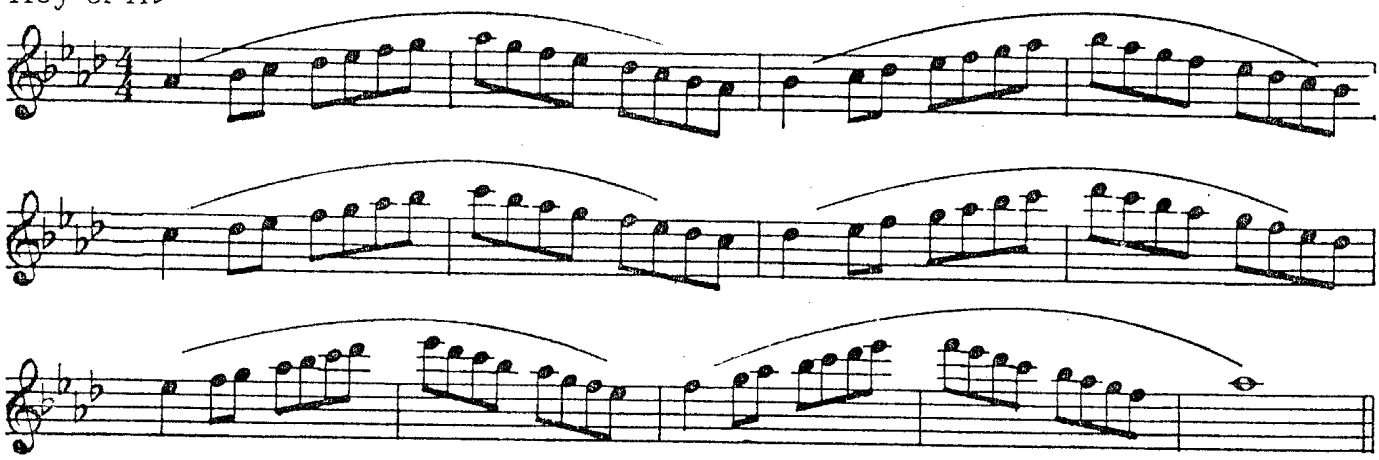
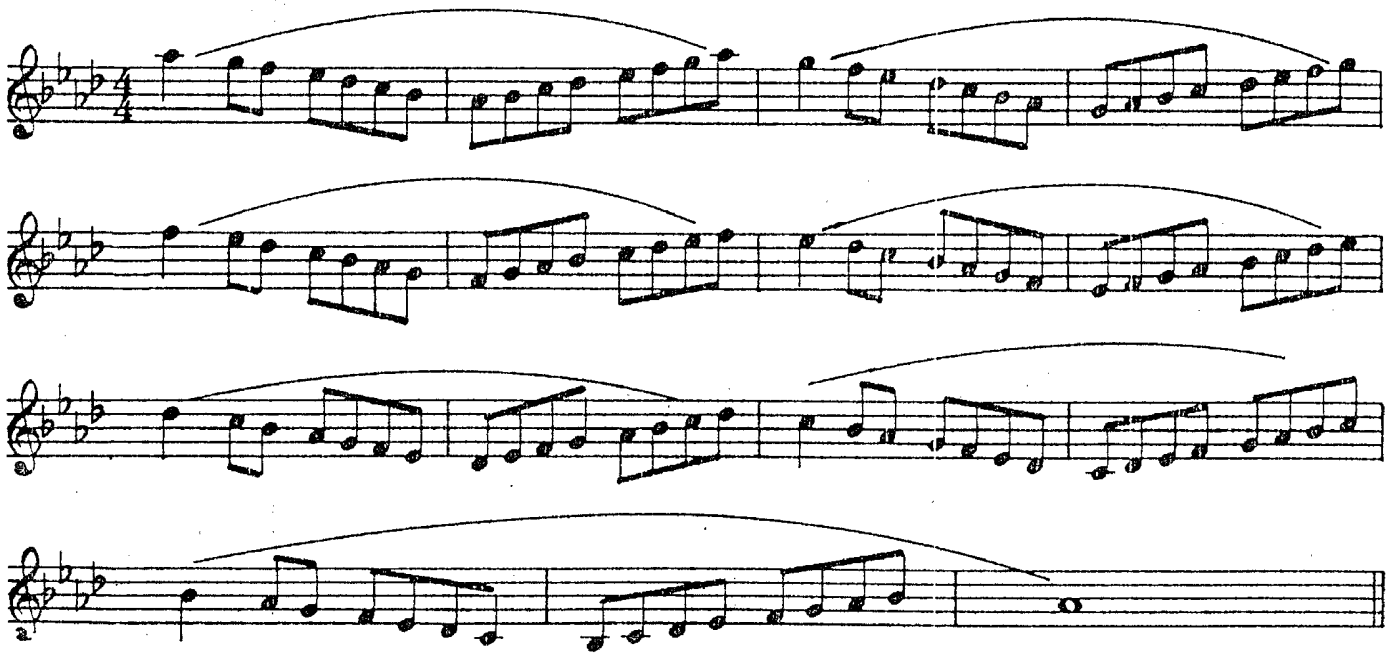
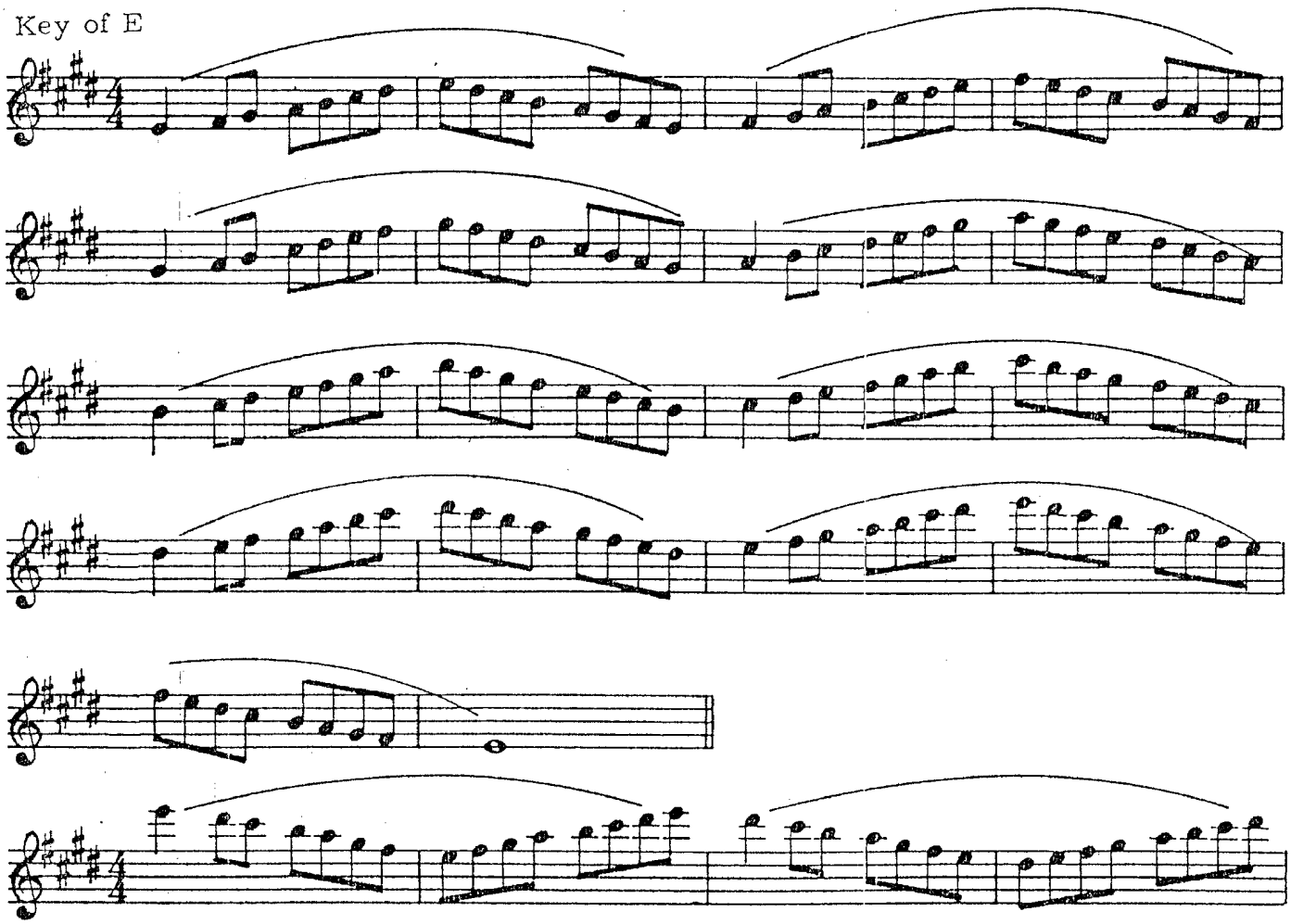
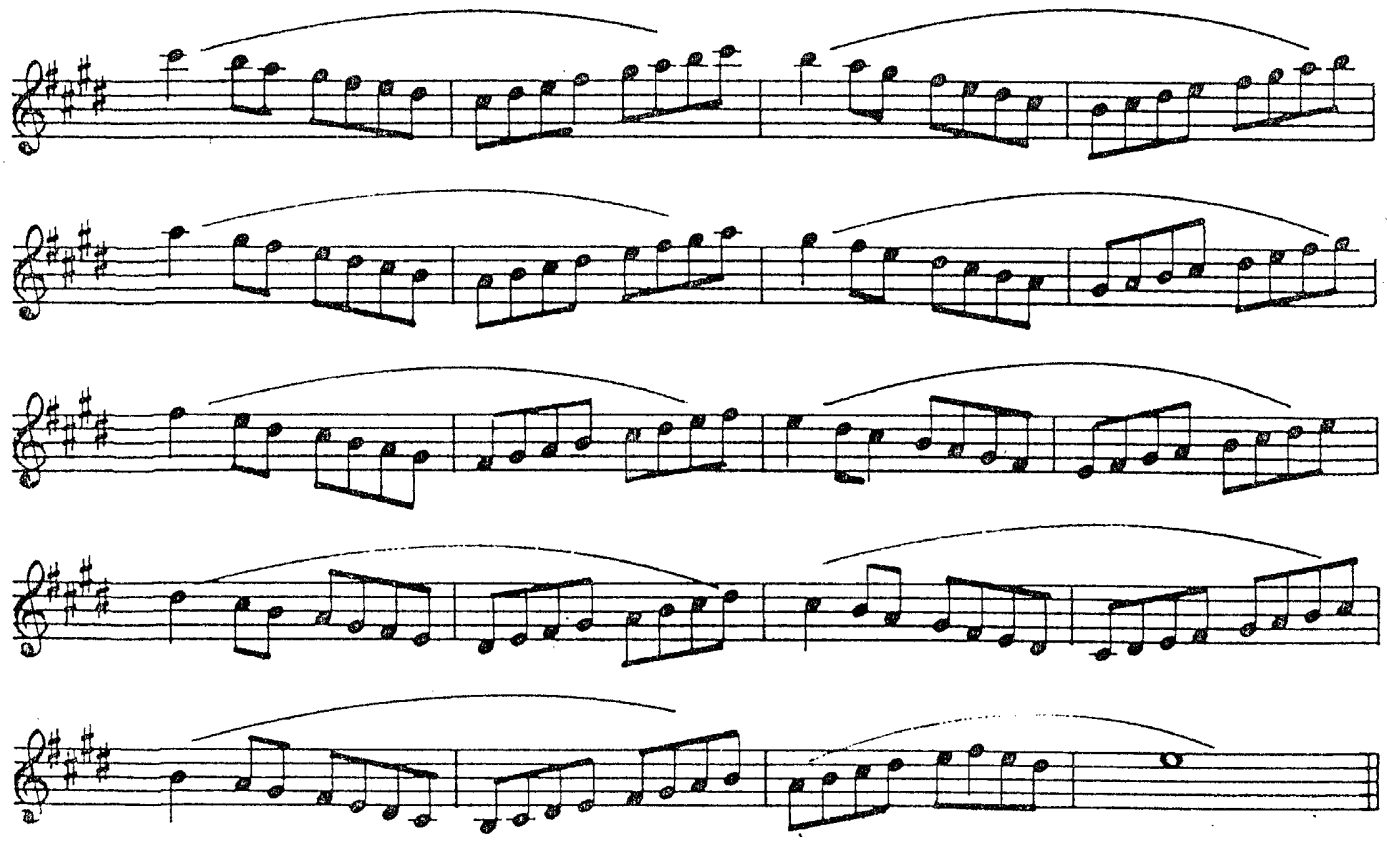




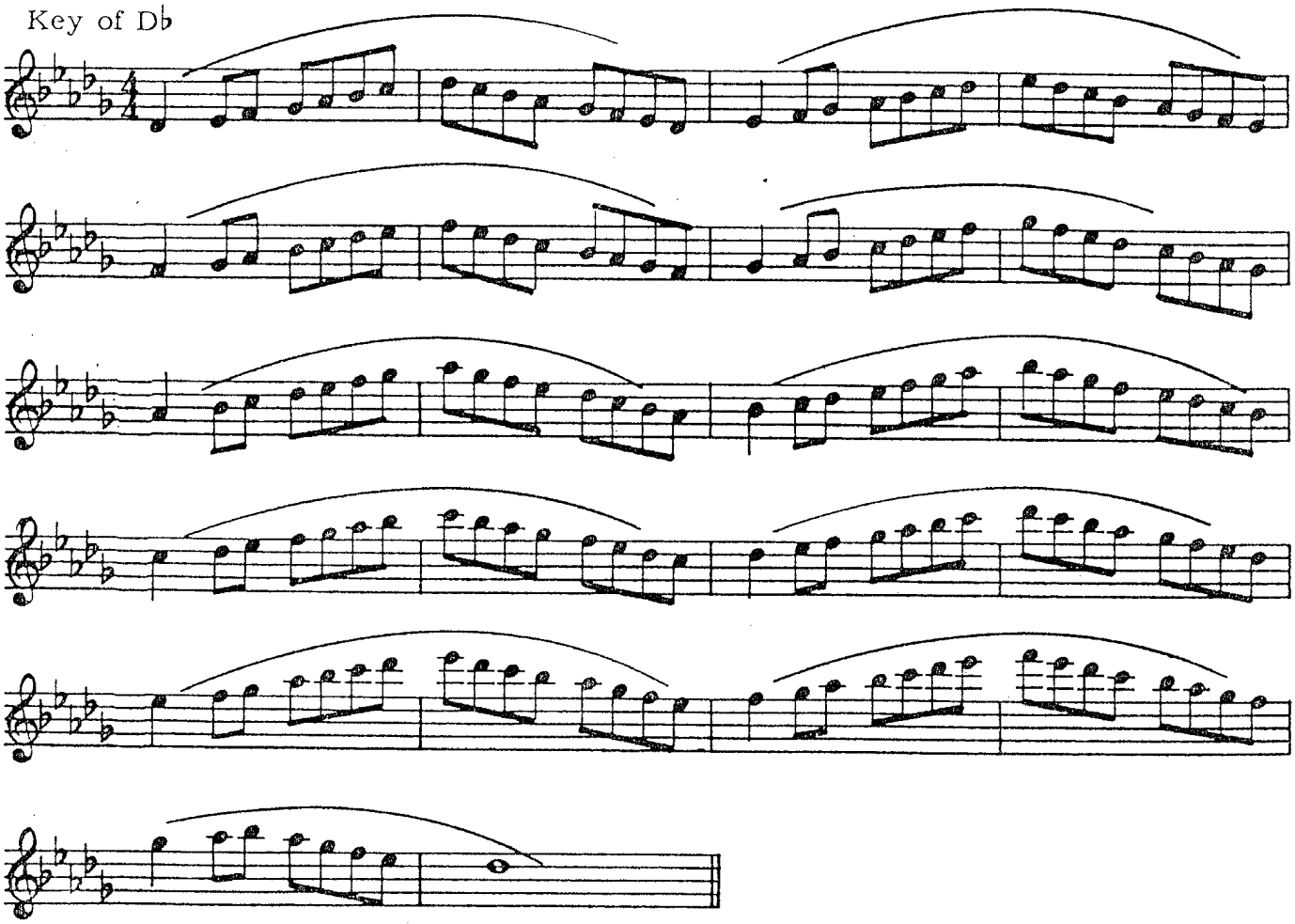
Key of E

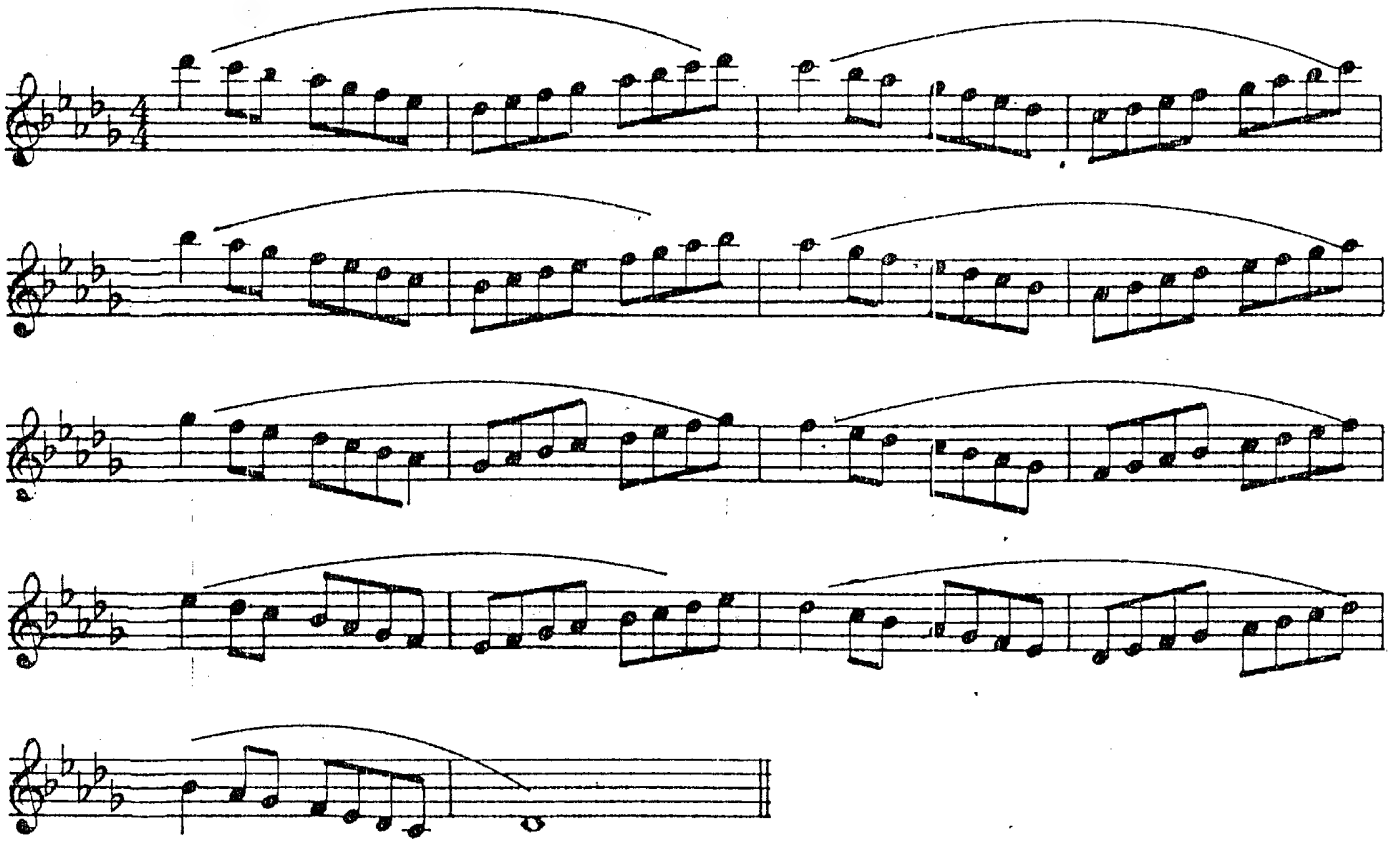
54



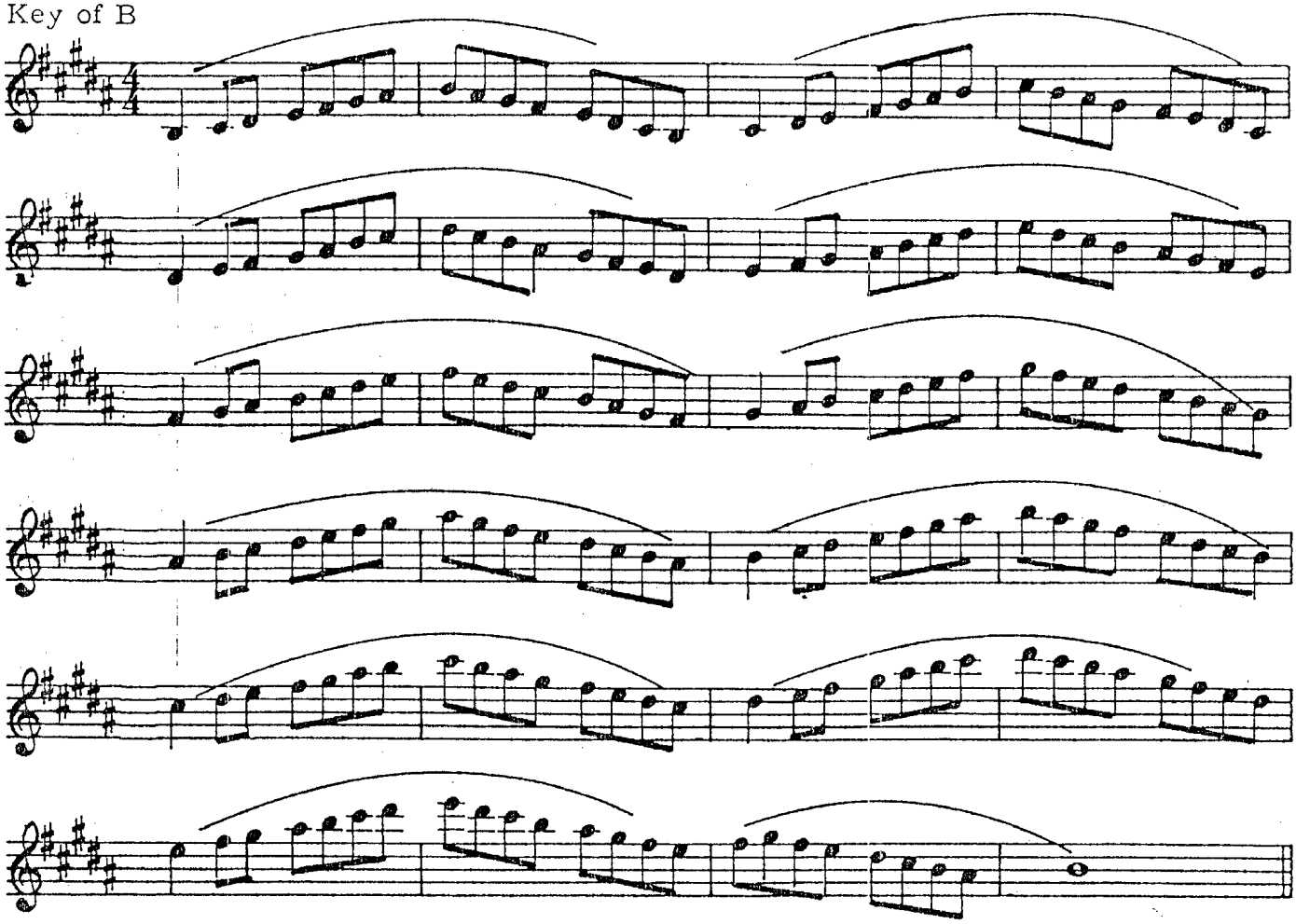


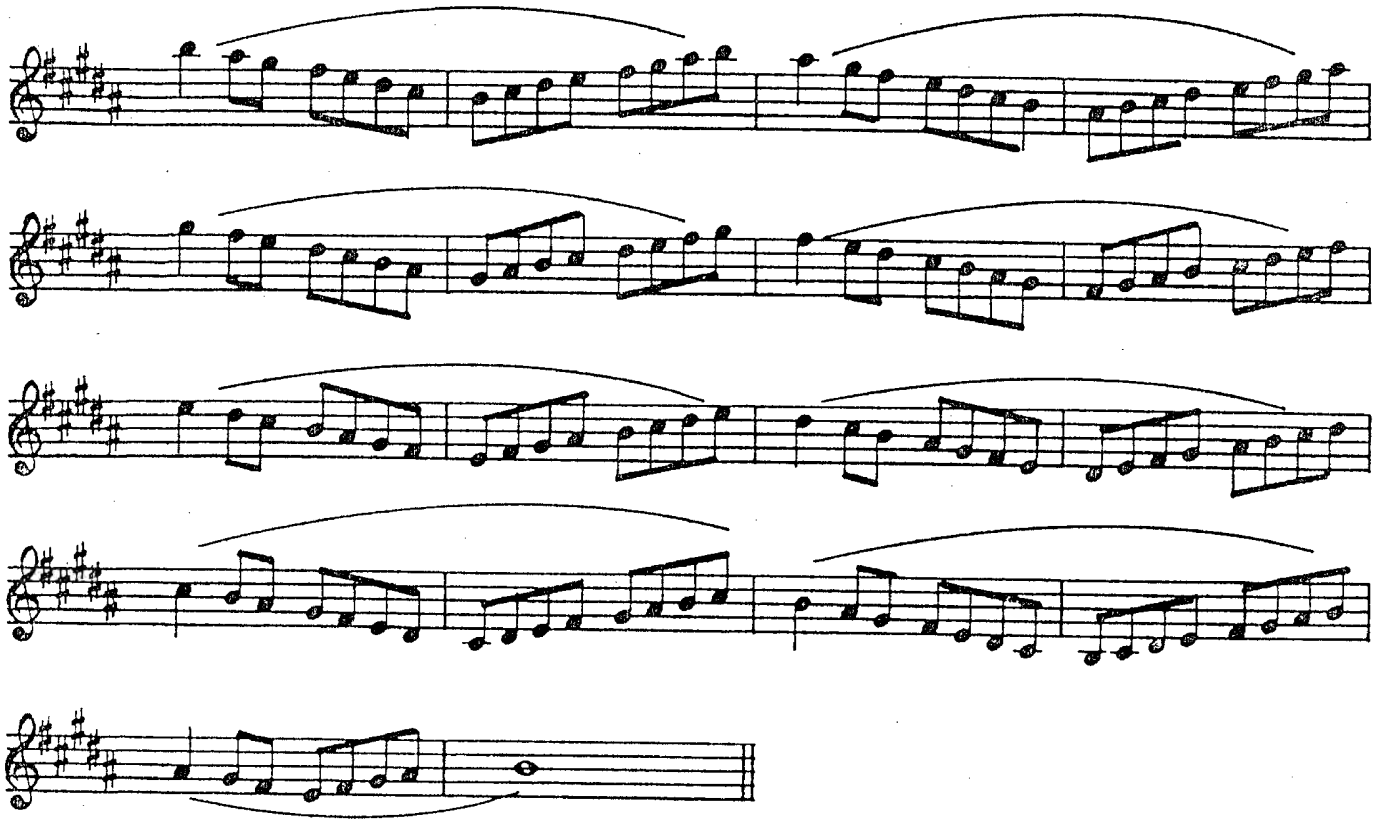
55 Key of Db





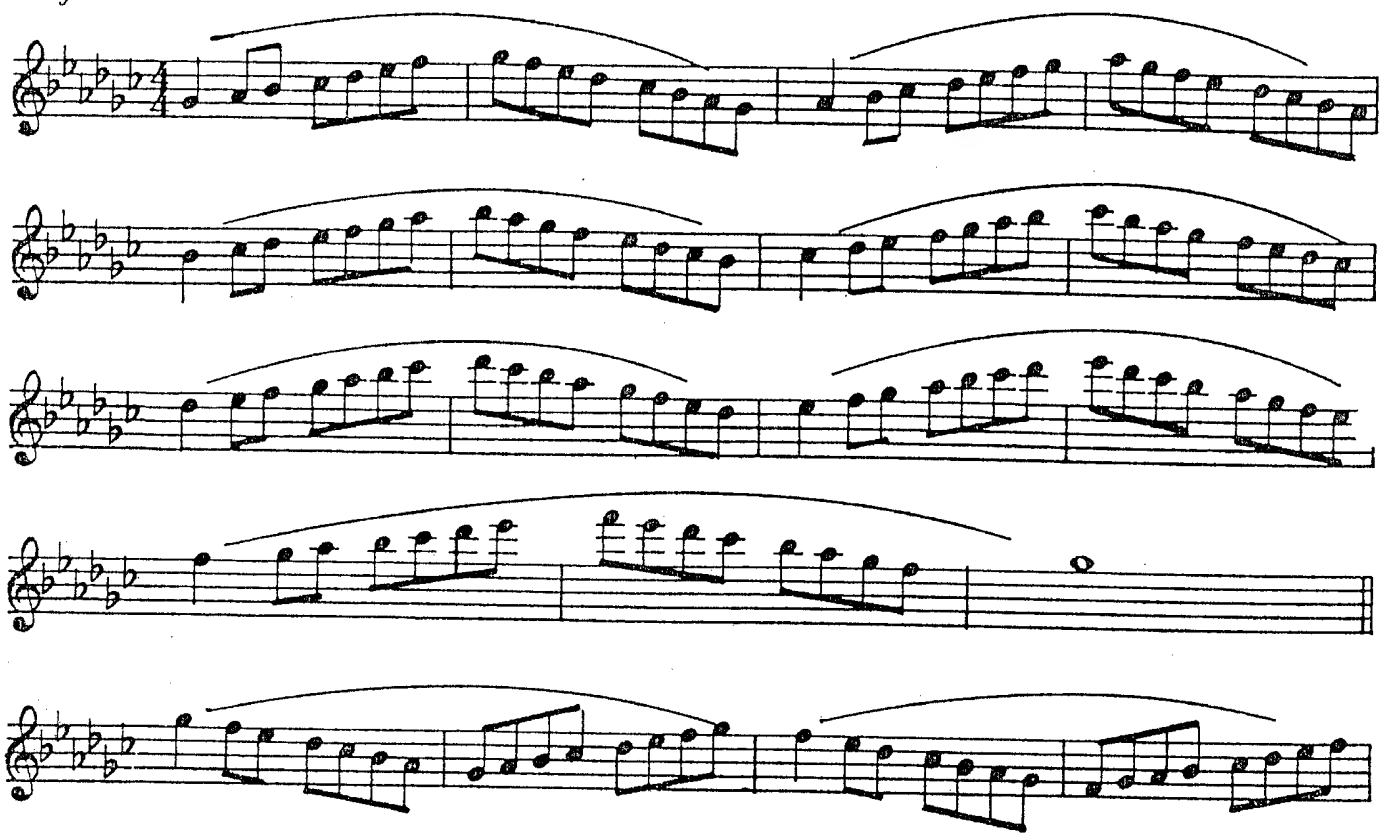
56 Key of B

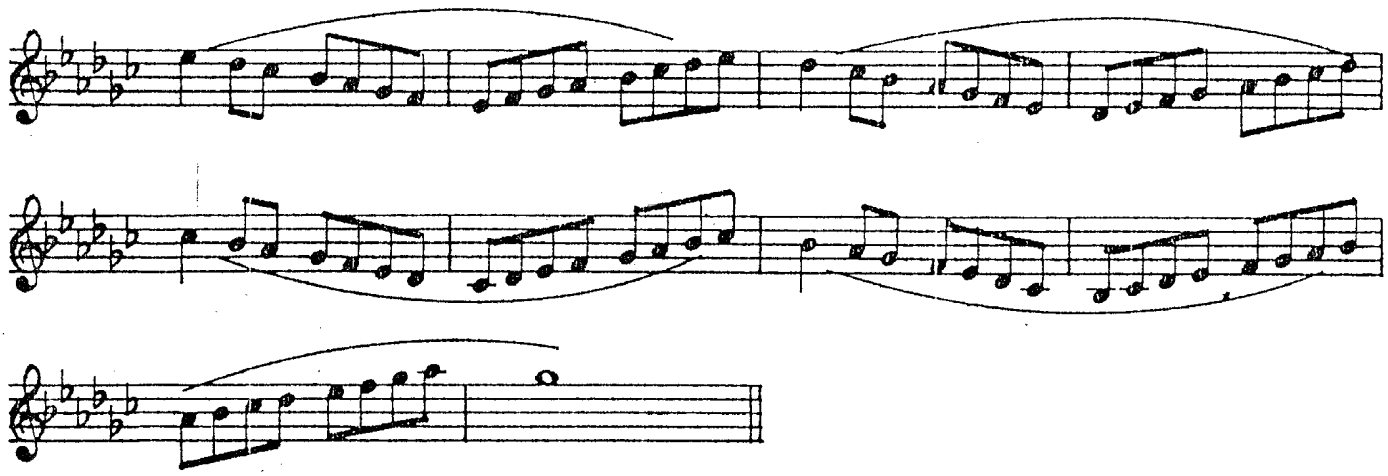




Key of Gb

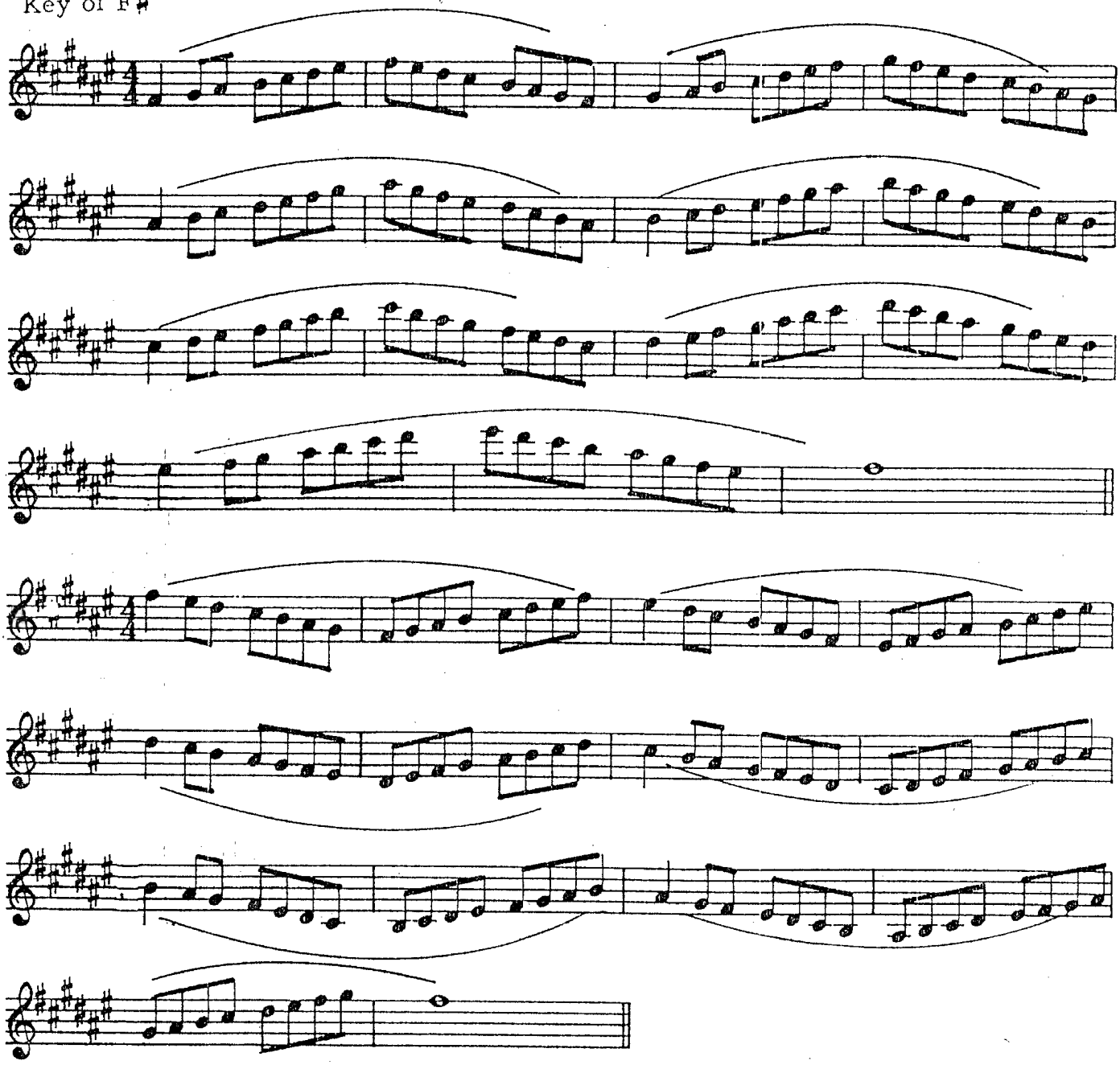
57





Key of F♯

58



Key of Cb

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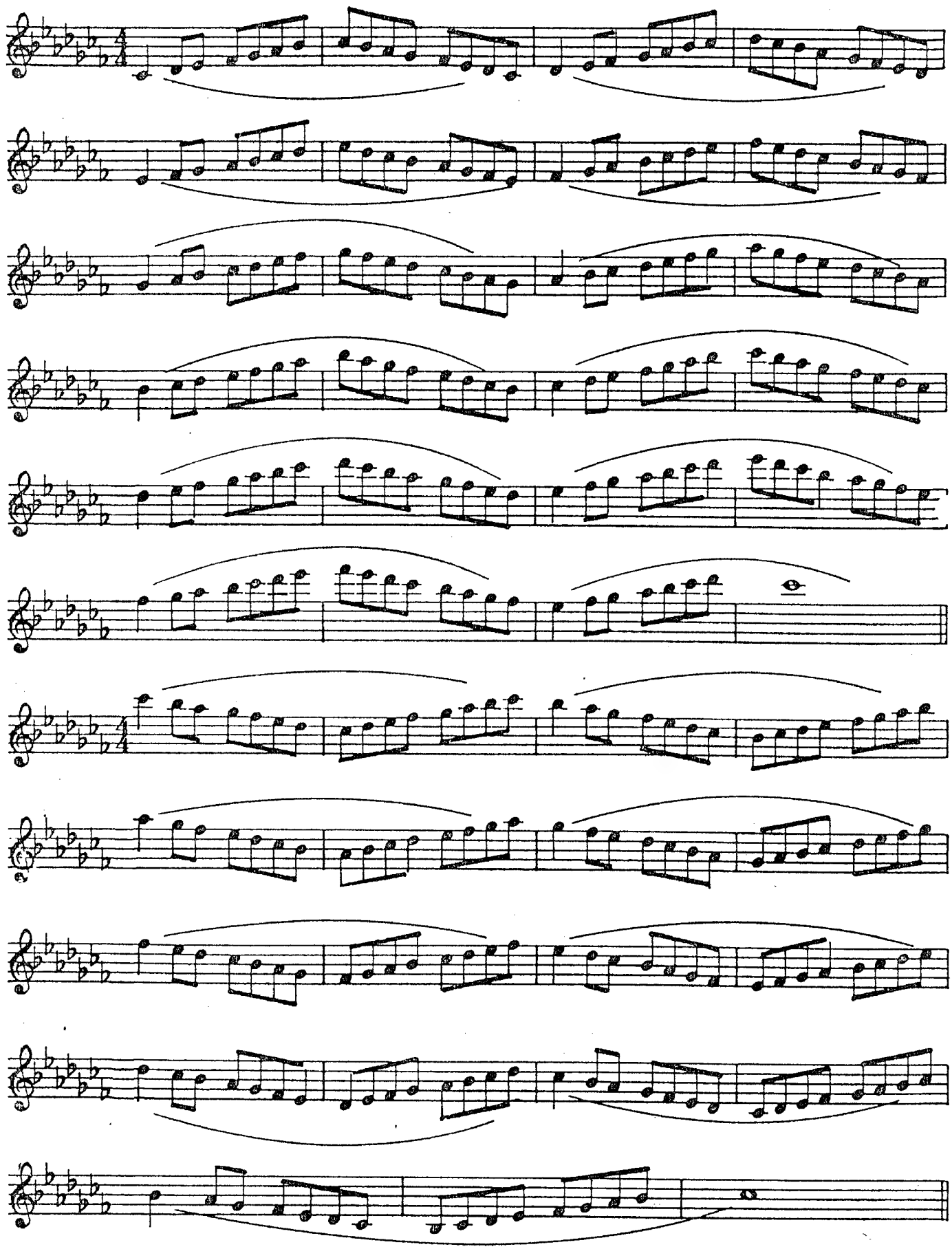
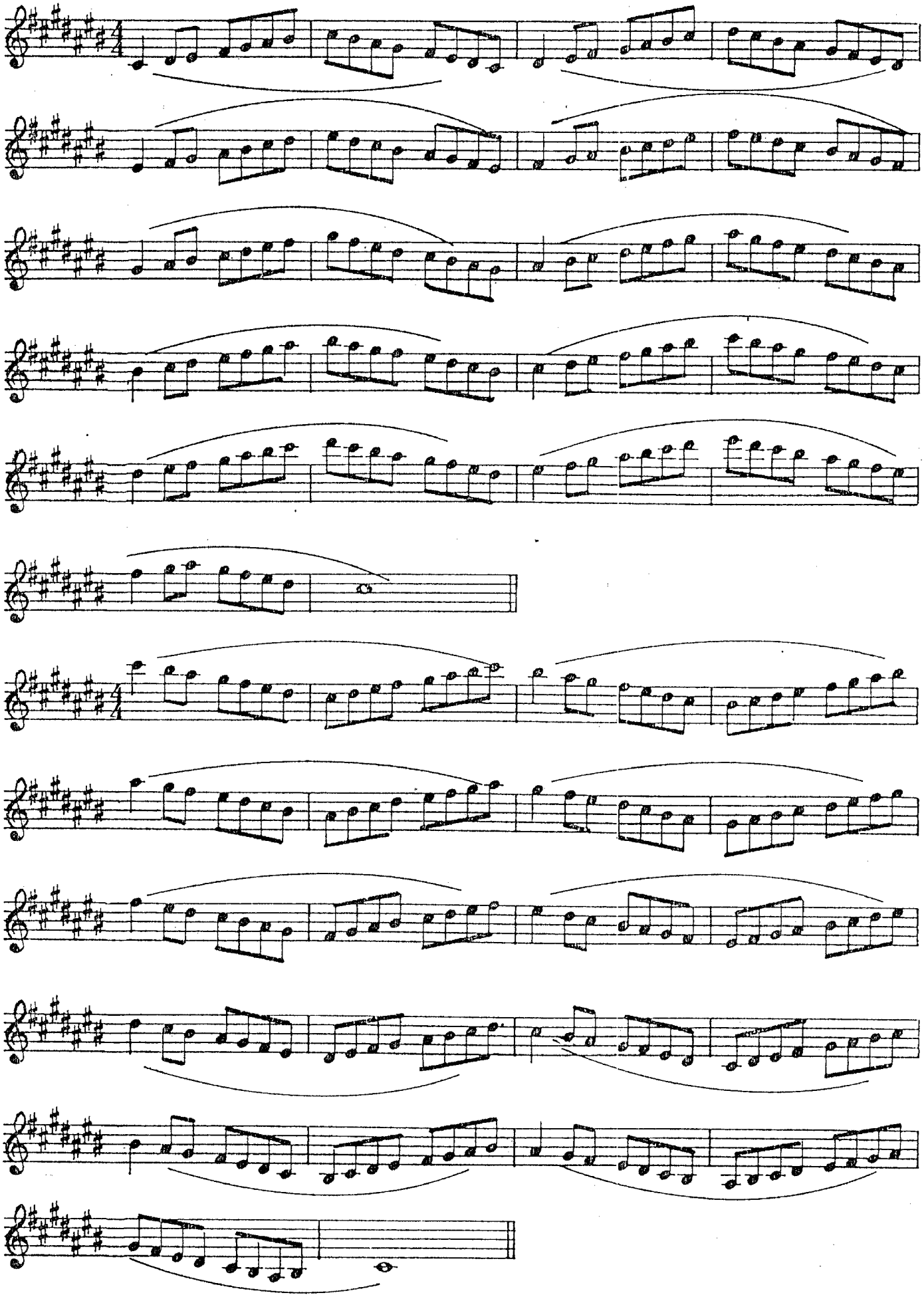


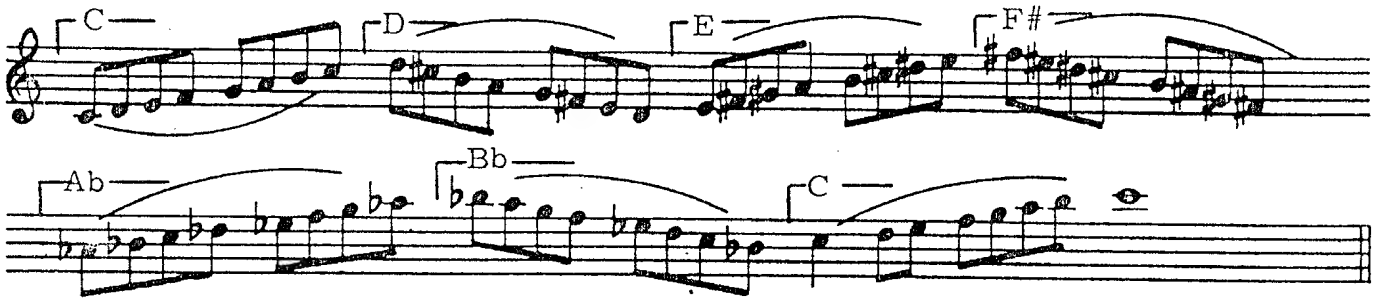
60 Key of C♯



MAJOR SCALES - POLYTONAL VARIATIONS

(see author's notes)

61



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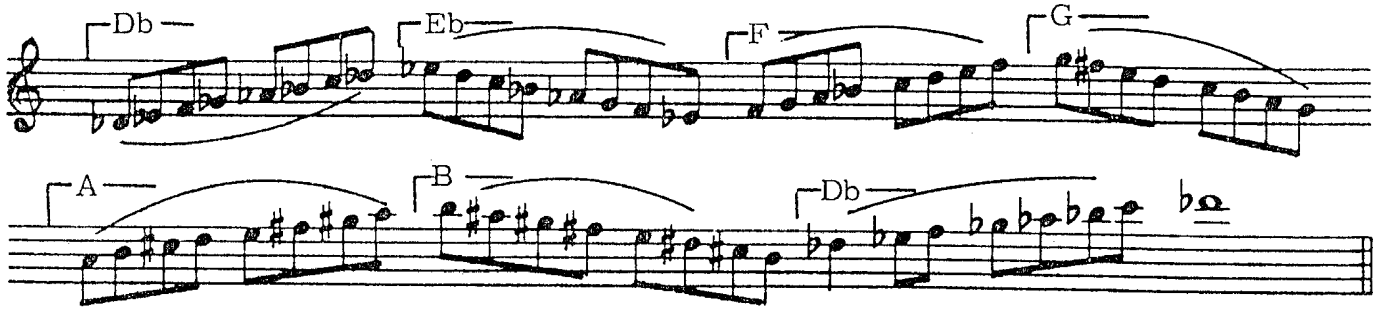

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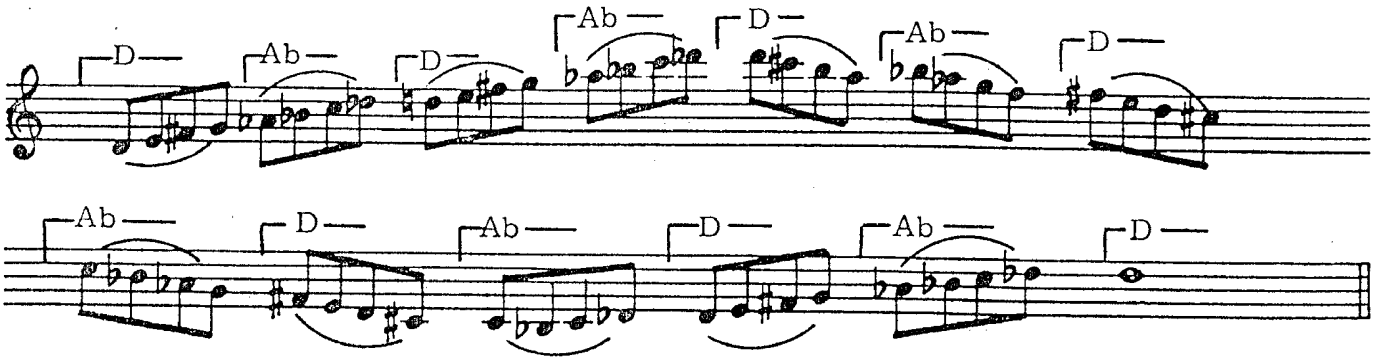

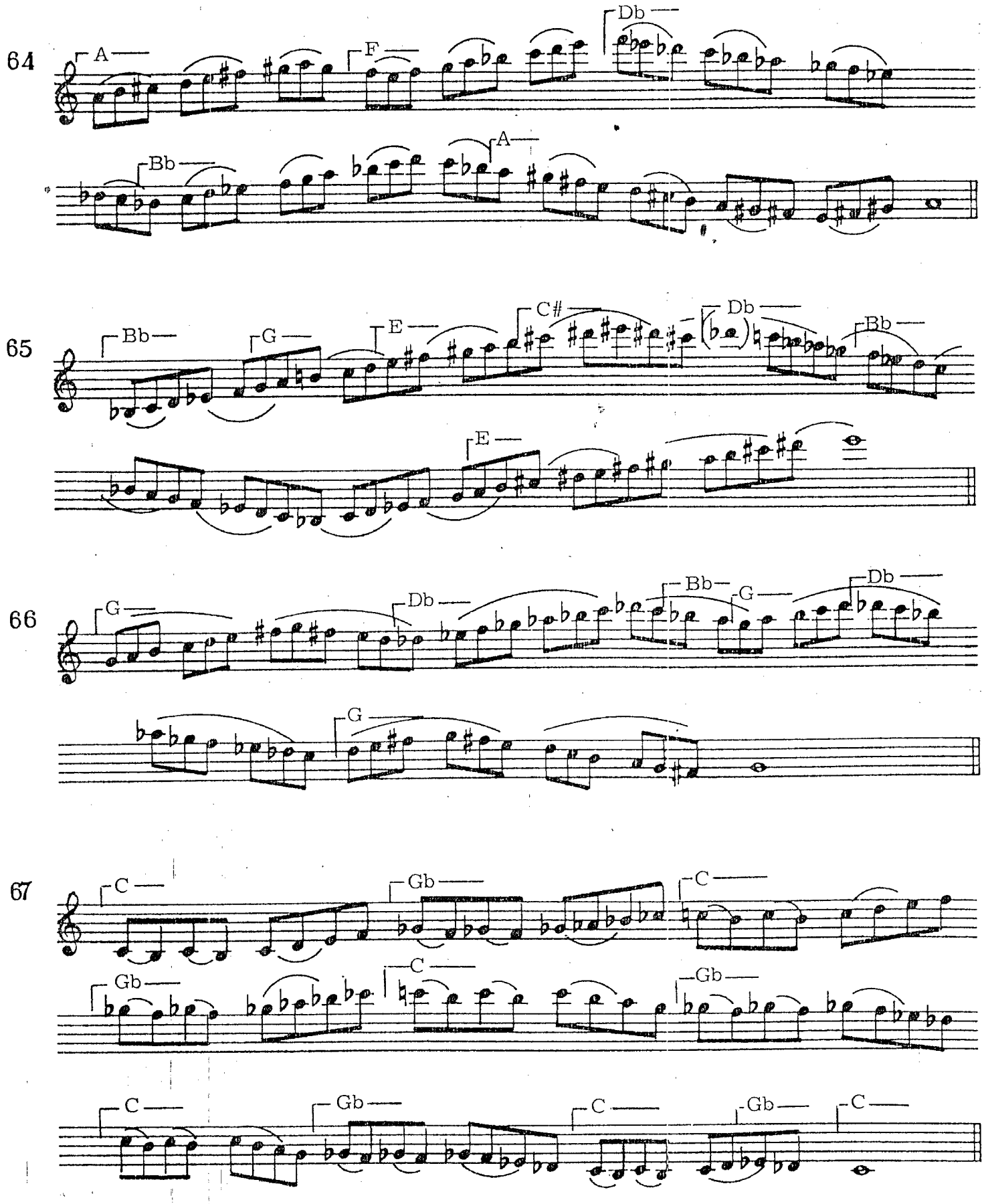
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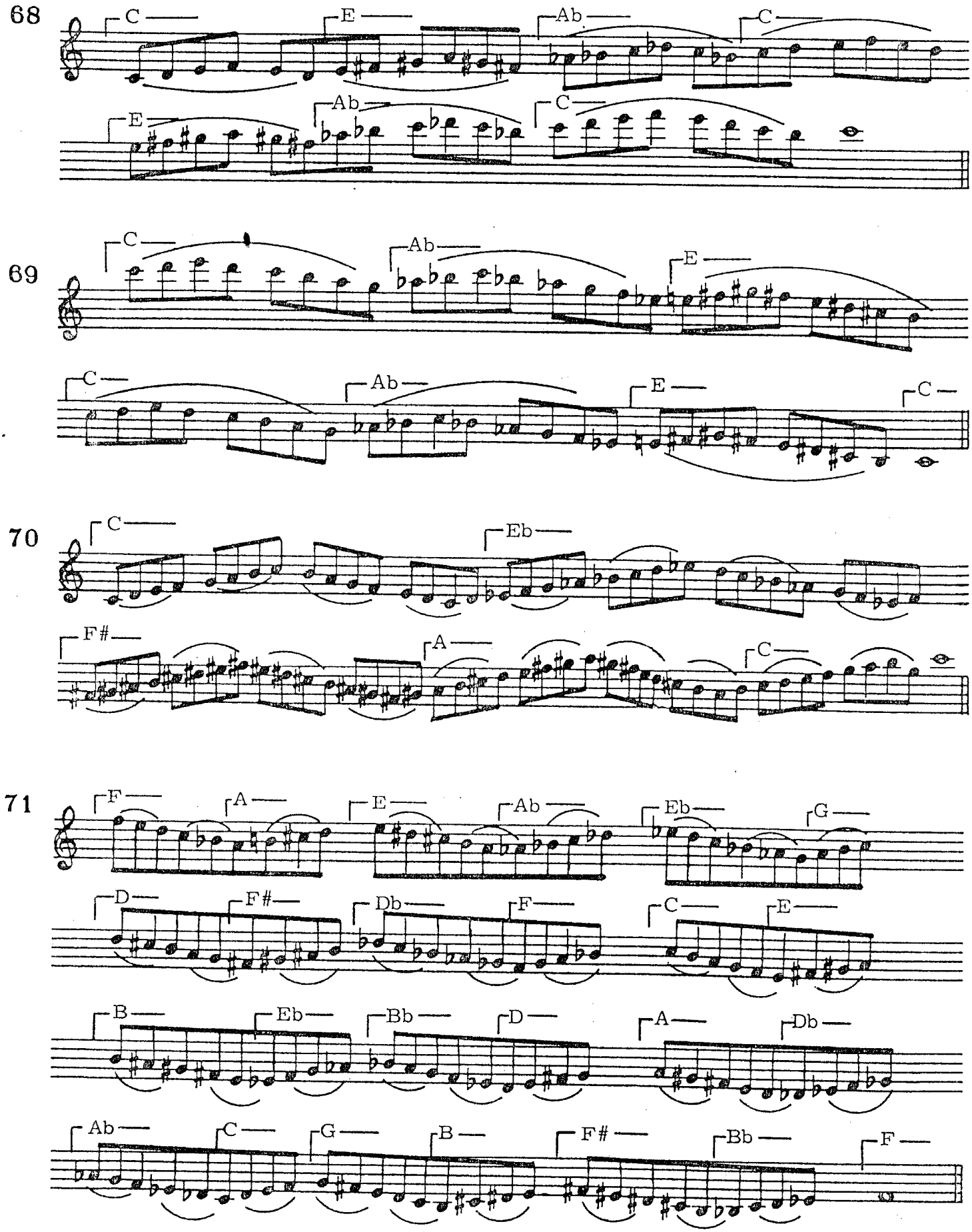
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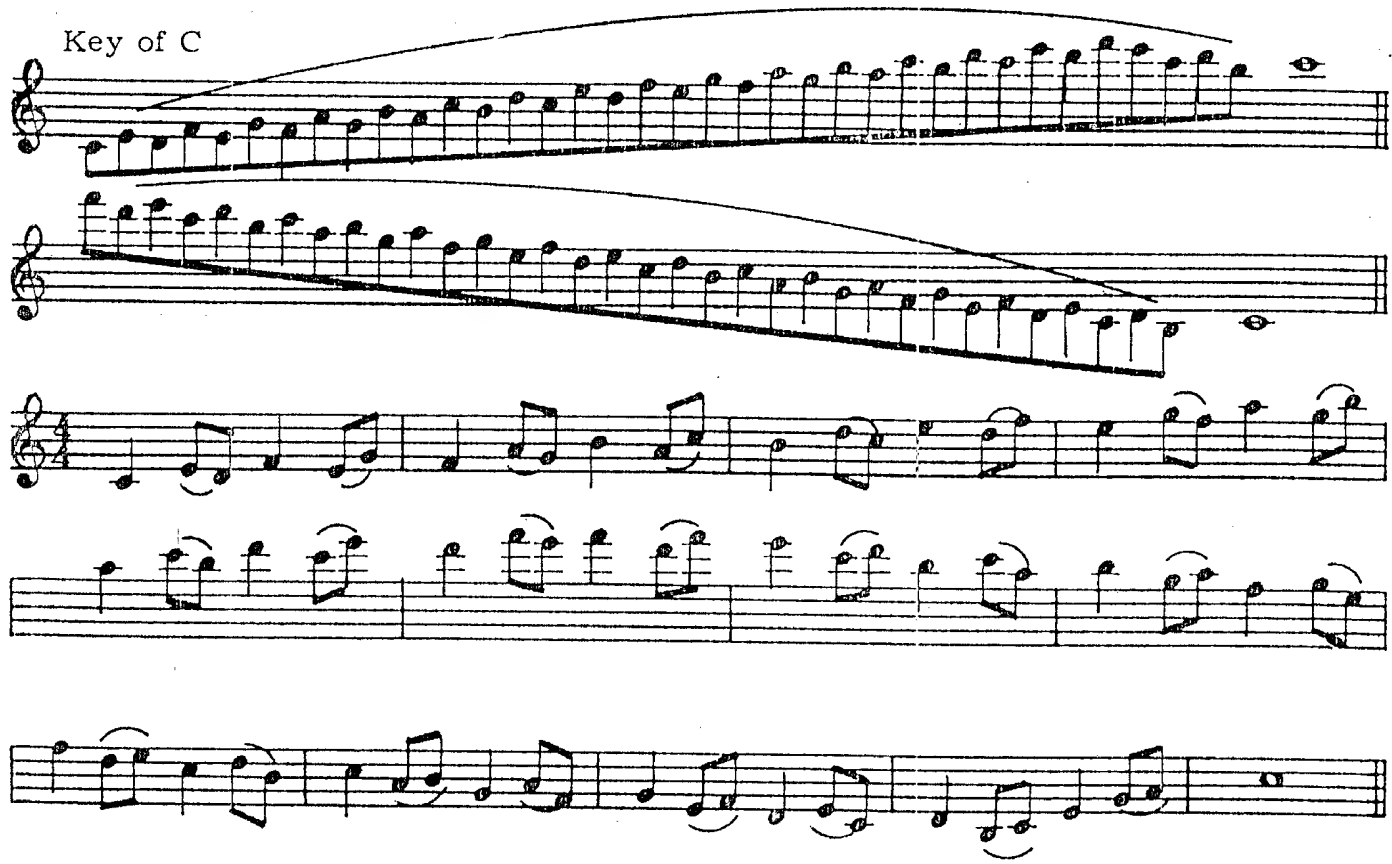
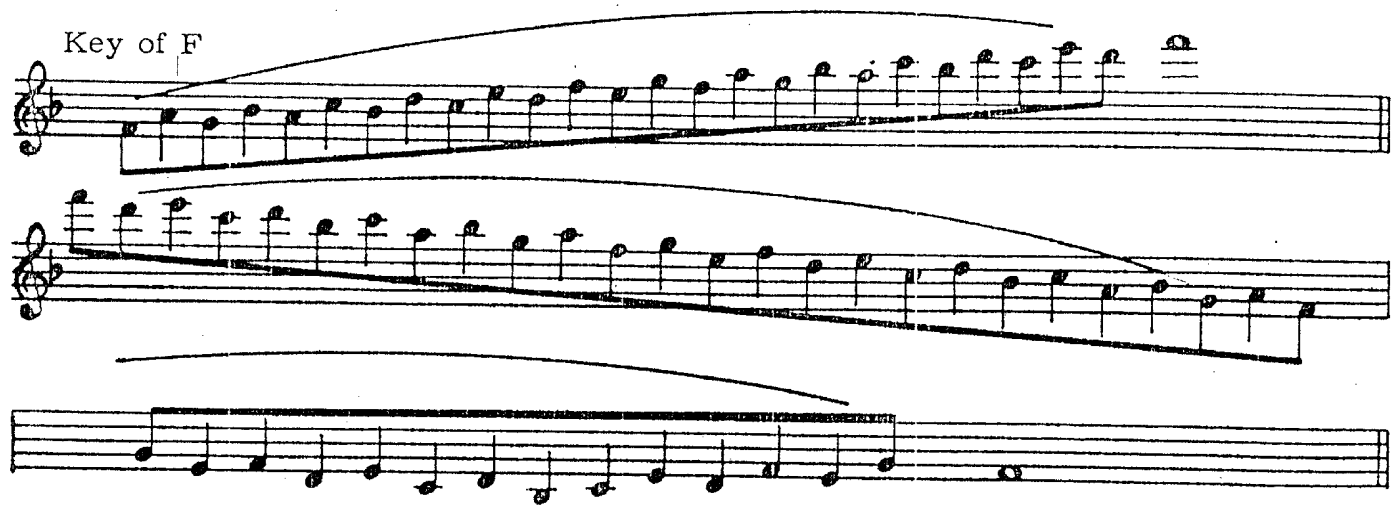
Section II

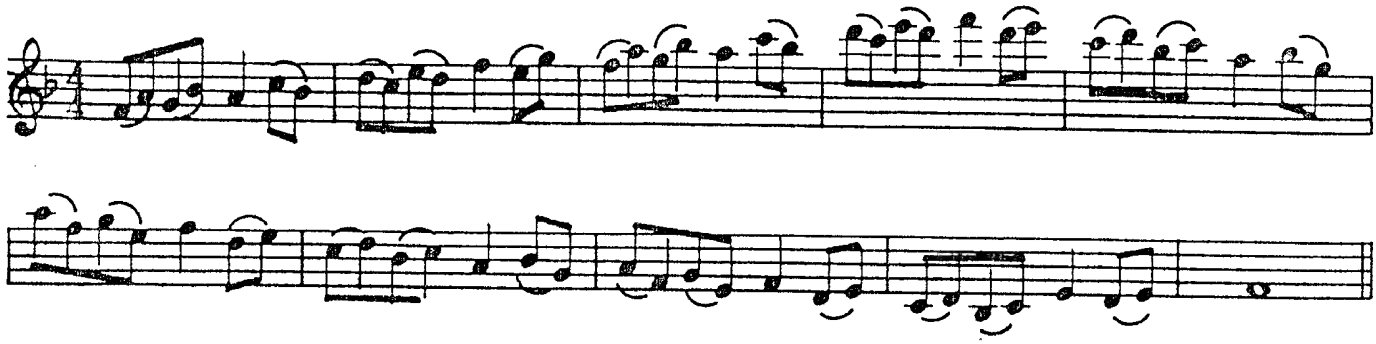
DIADS - TONAL VARIATIONS

72 Key of C

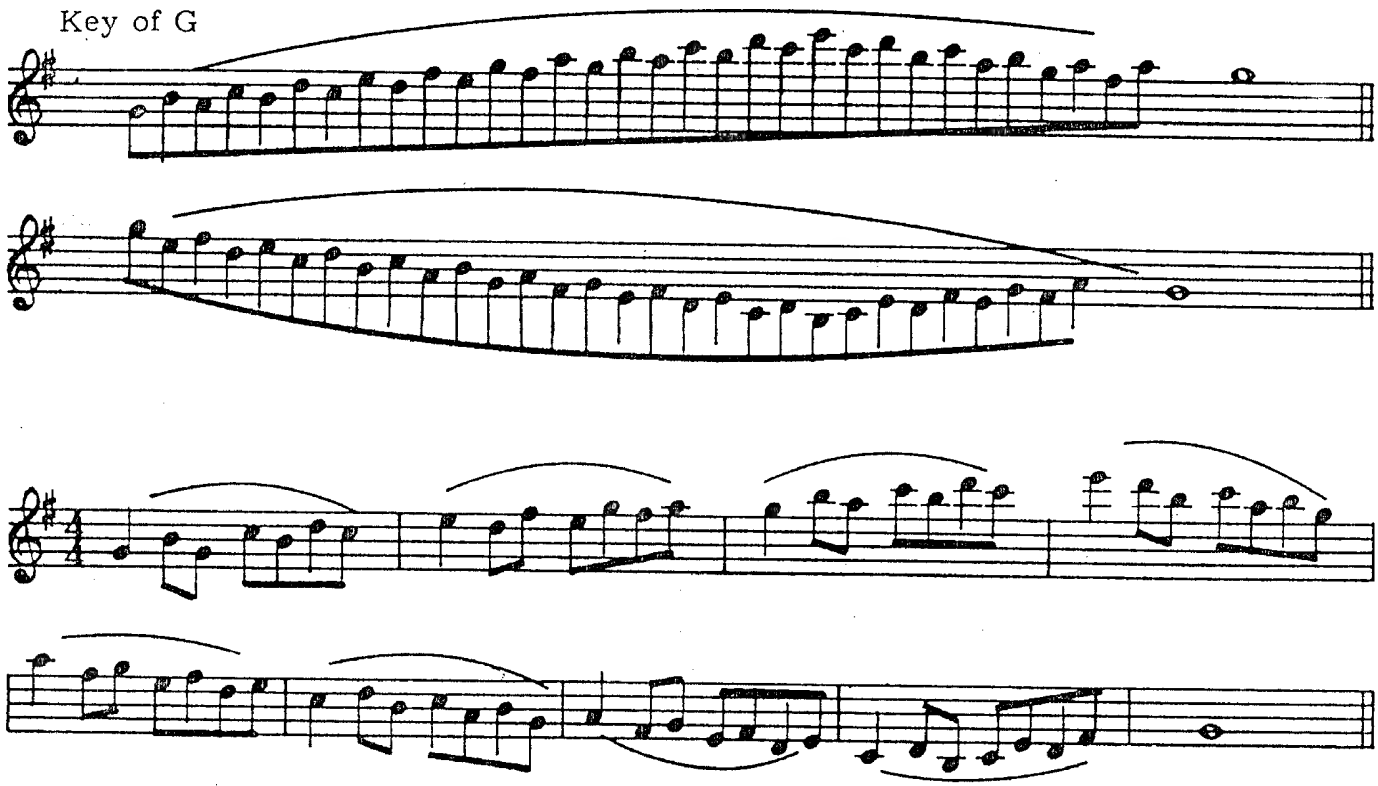


73 Key of F

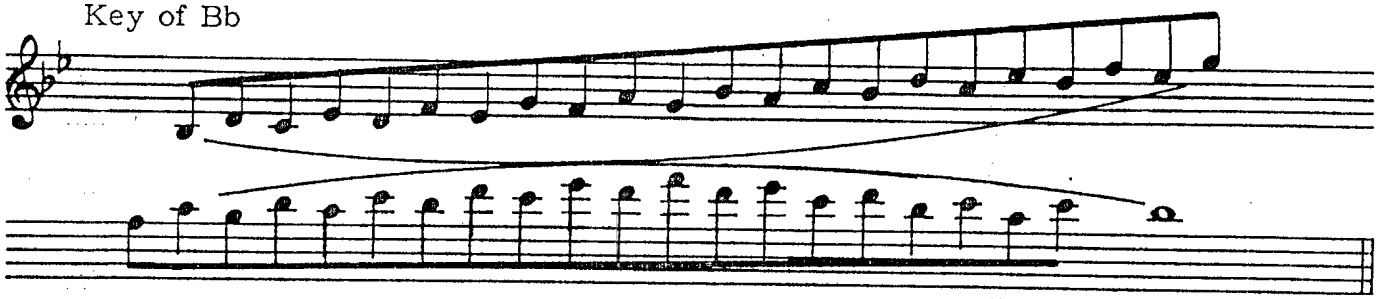


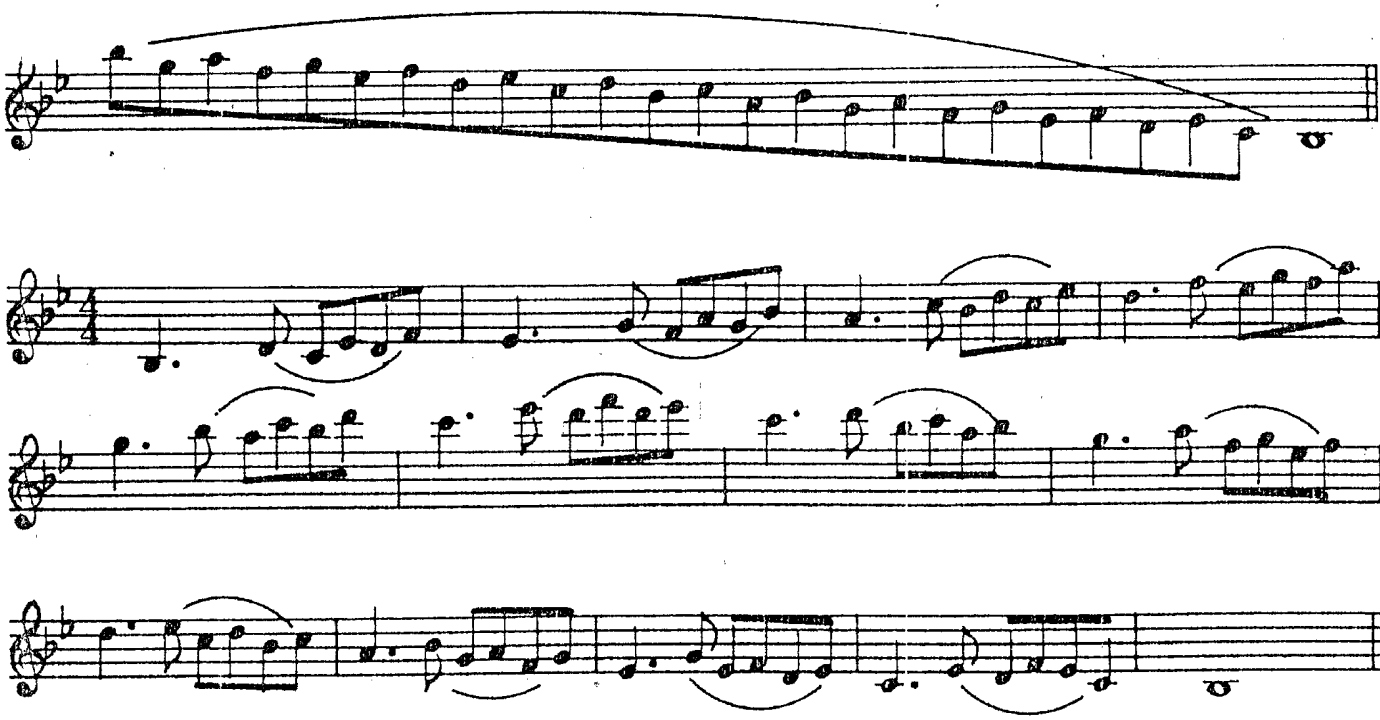


74 Key of G



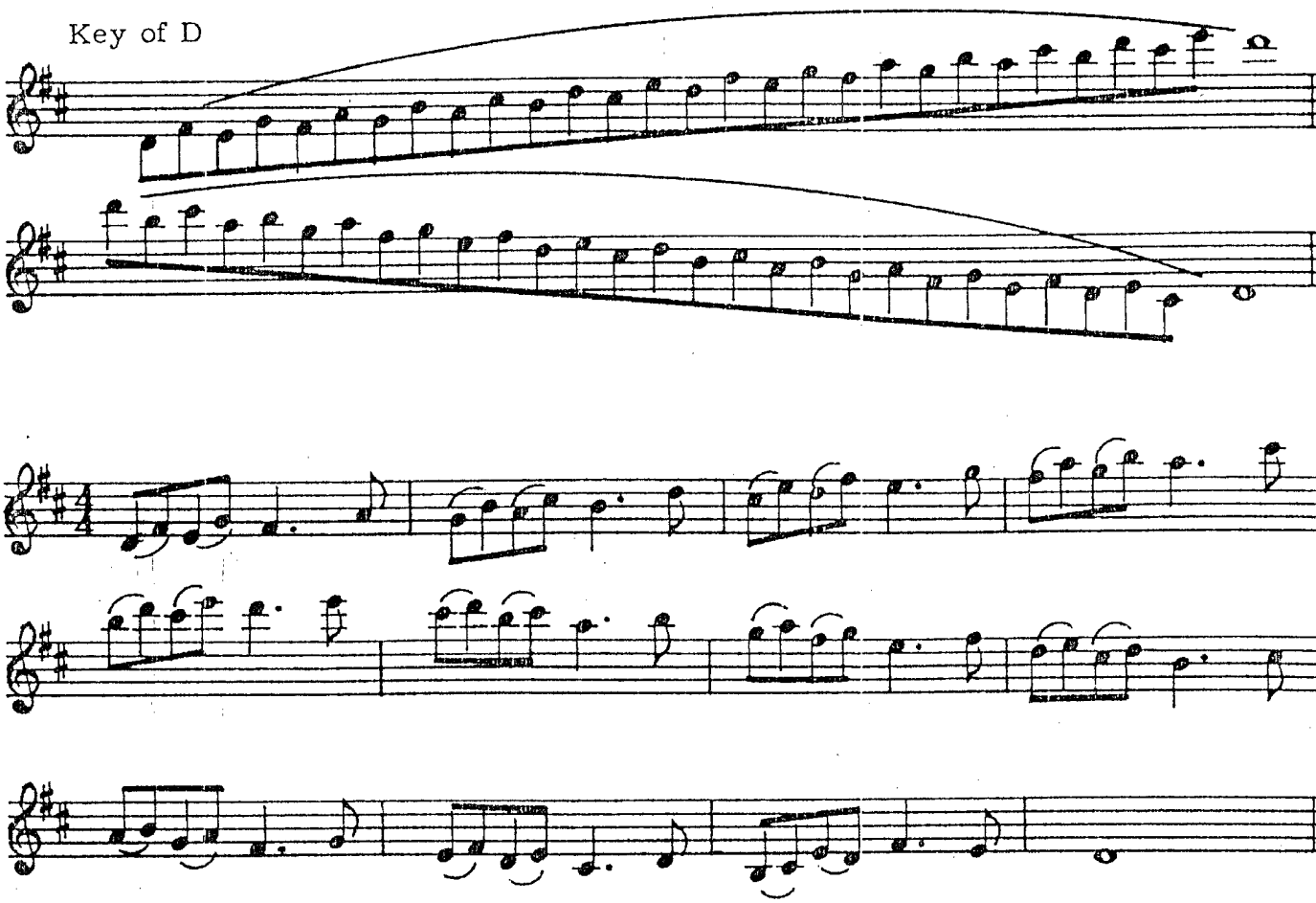
75 Key of Bb



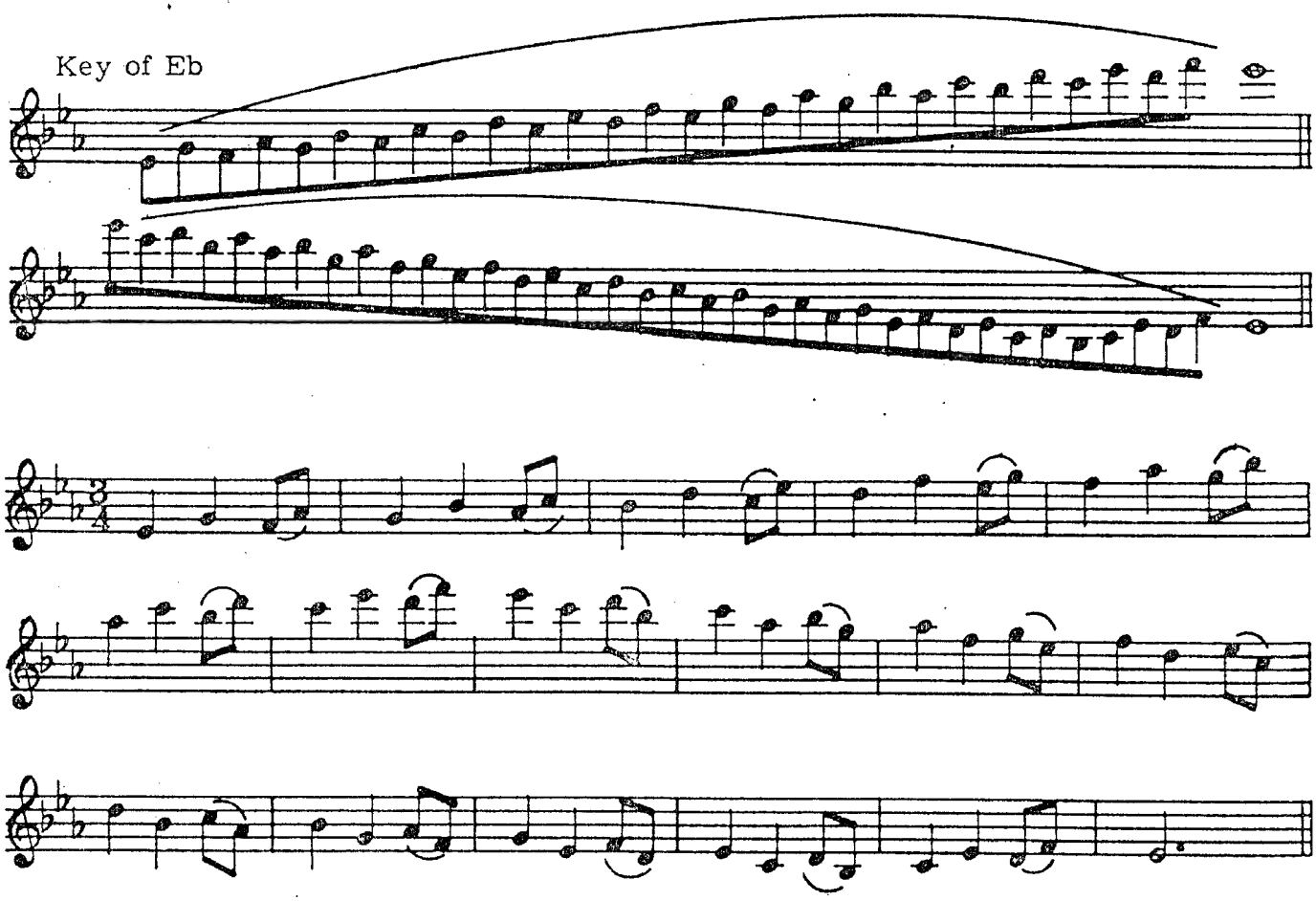


76

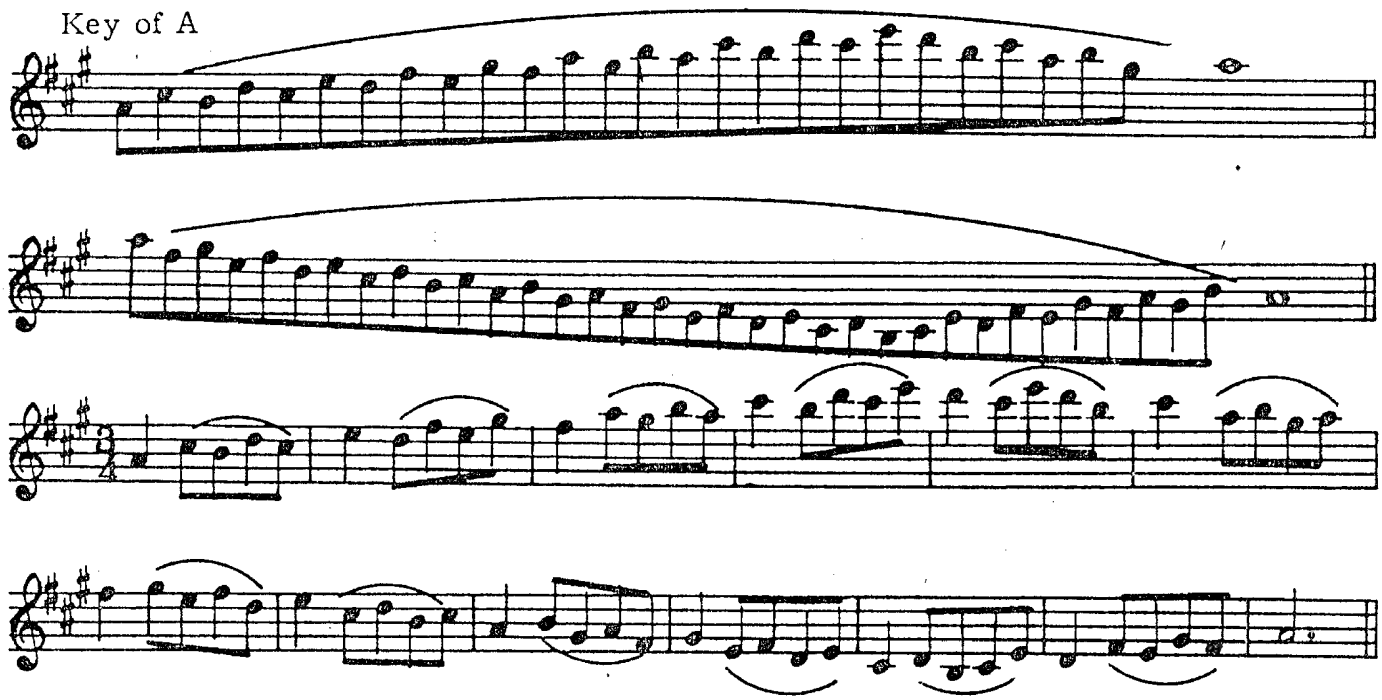
Key of D



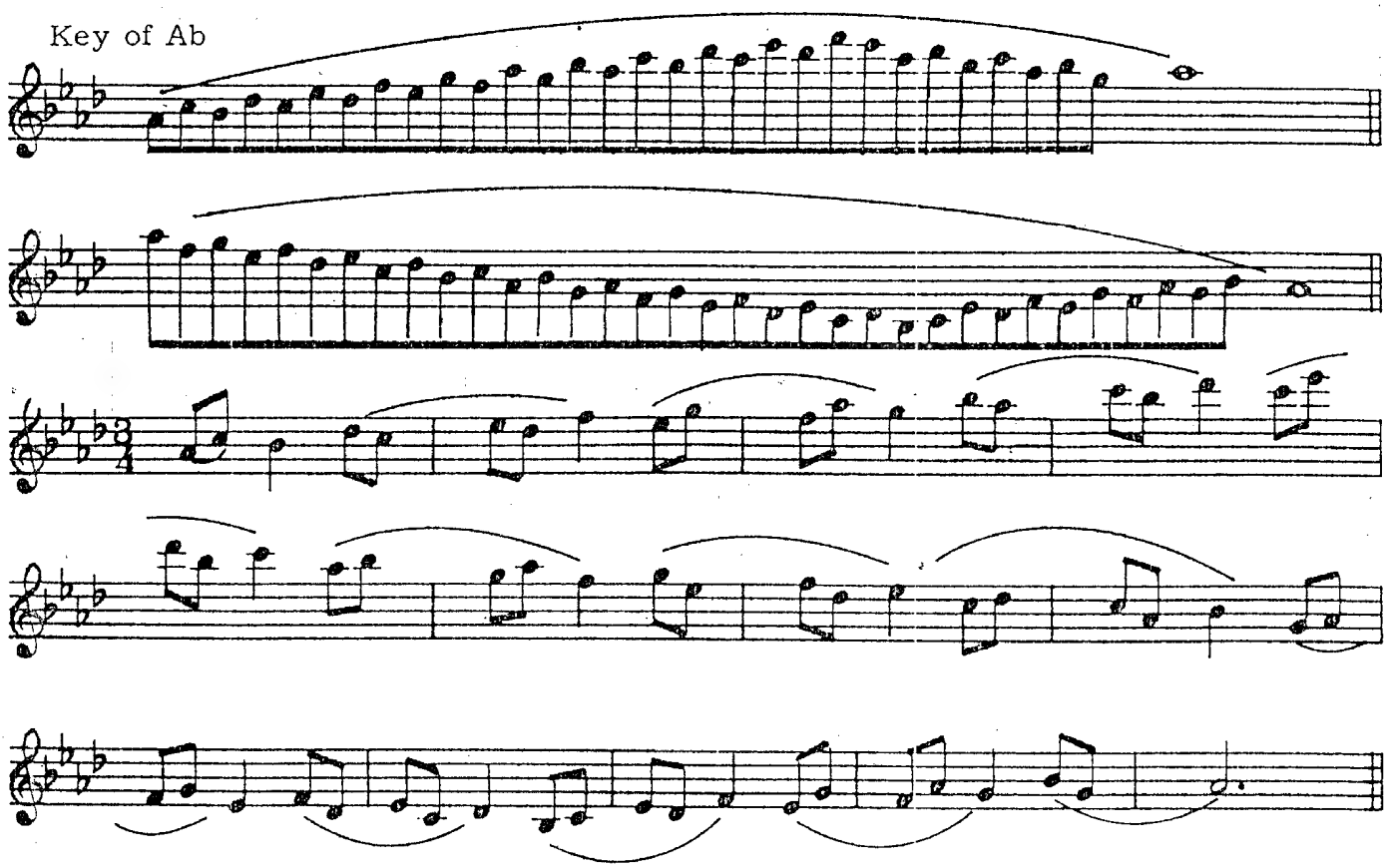
77 Key of Eb



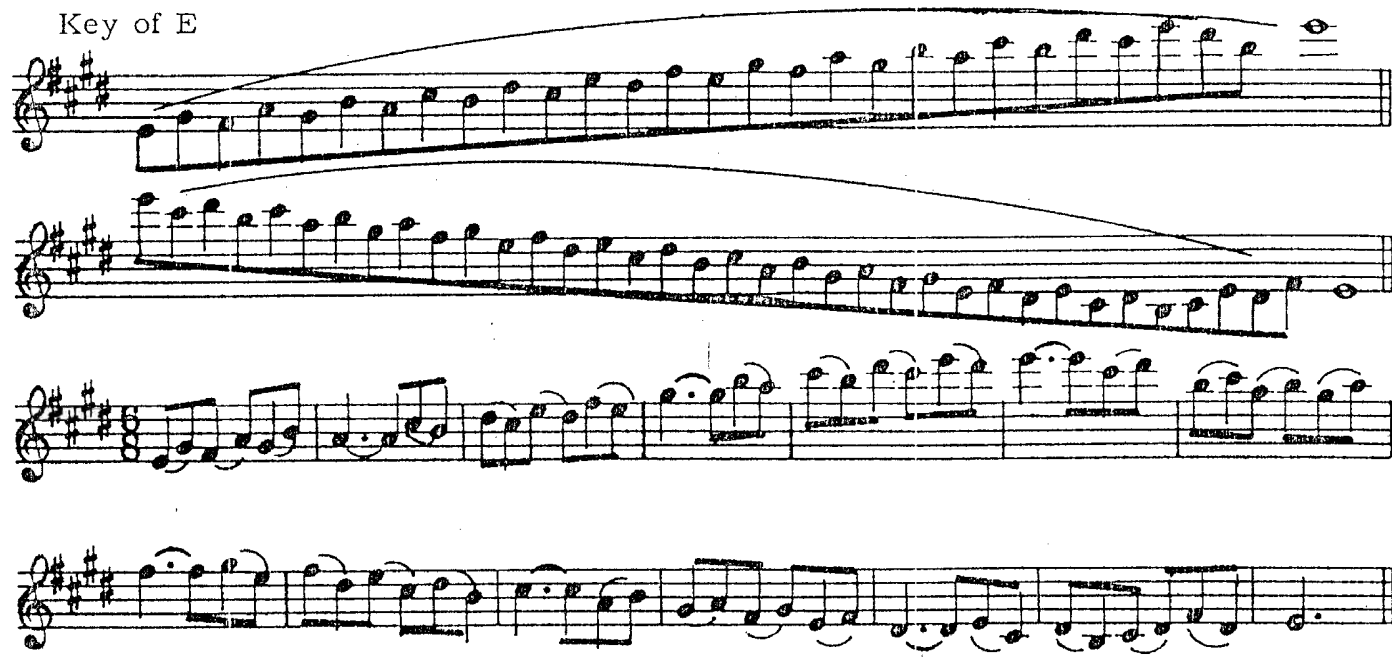
78 Key of A



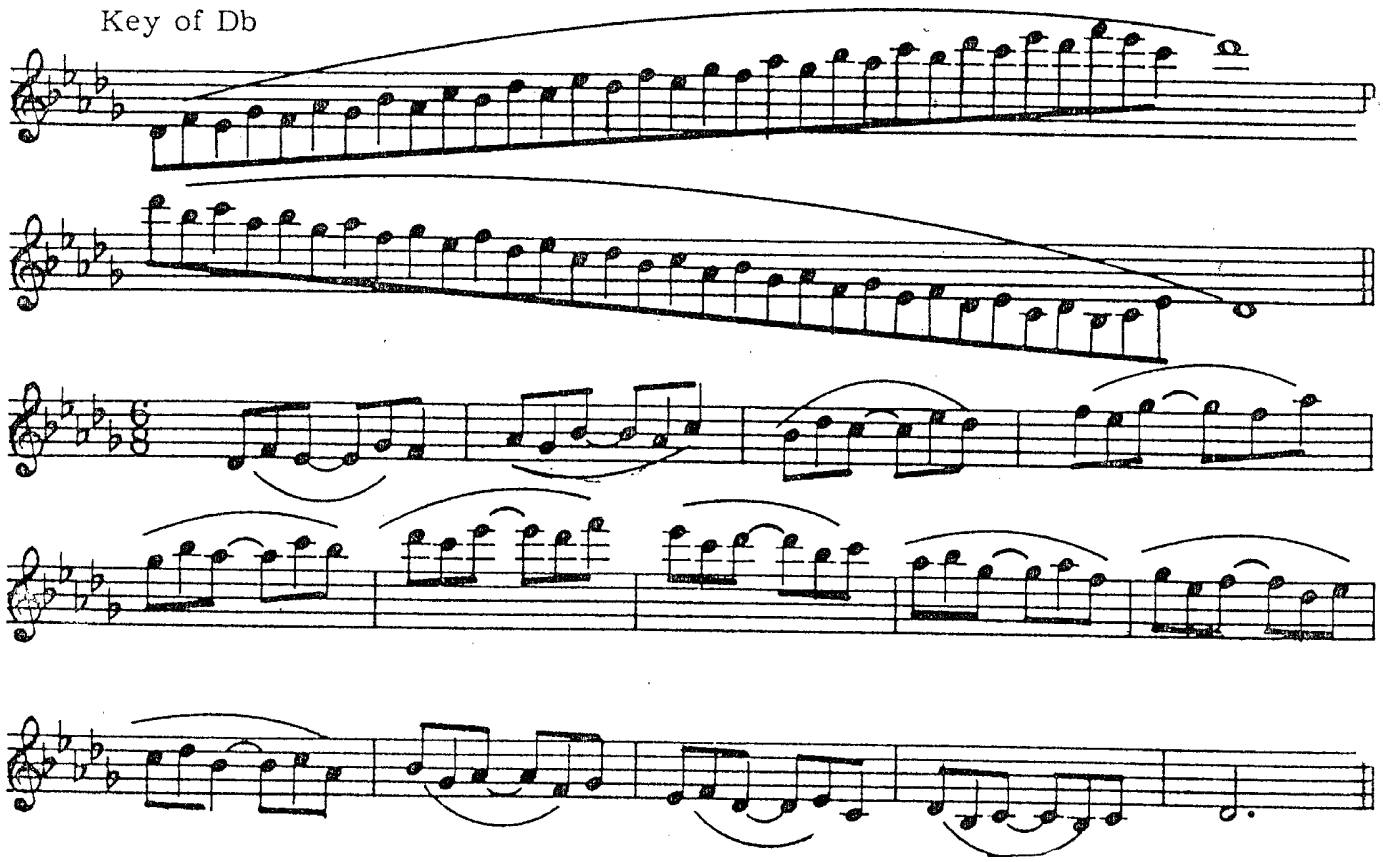
79 Key of Ab



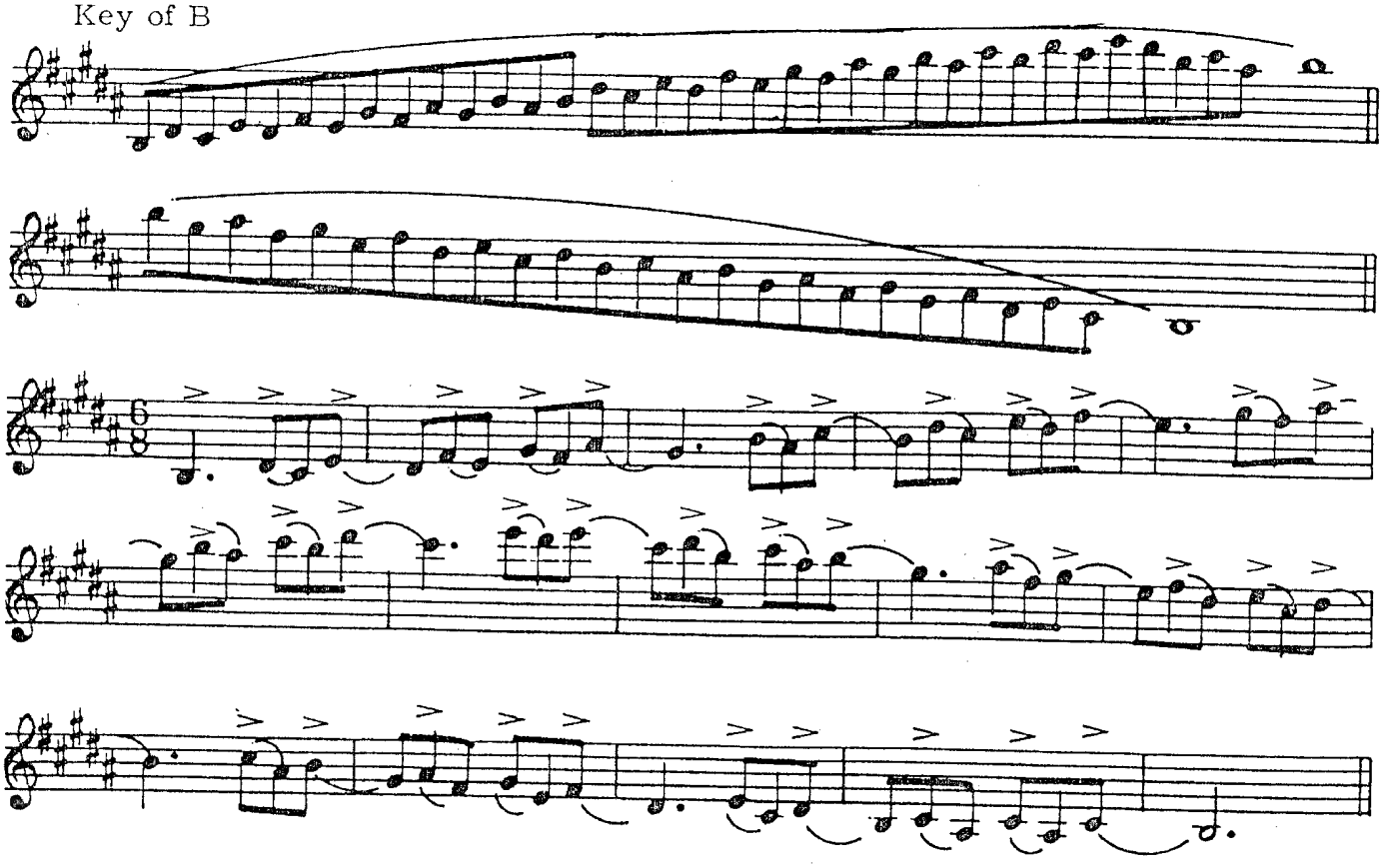
80 Key of E



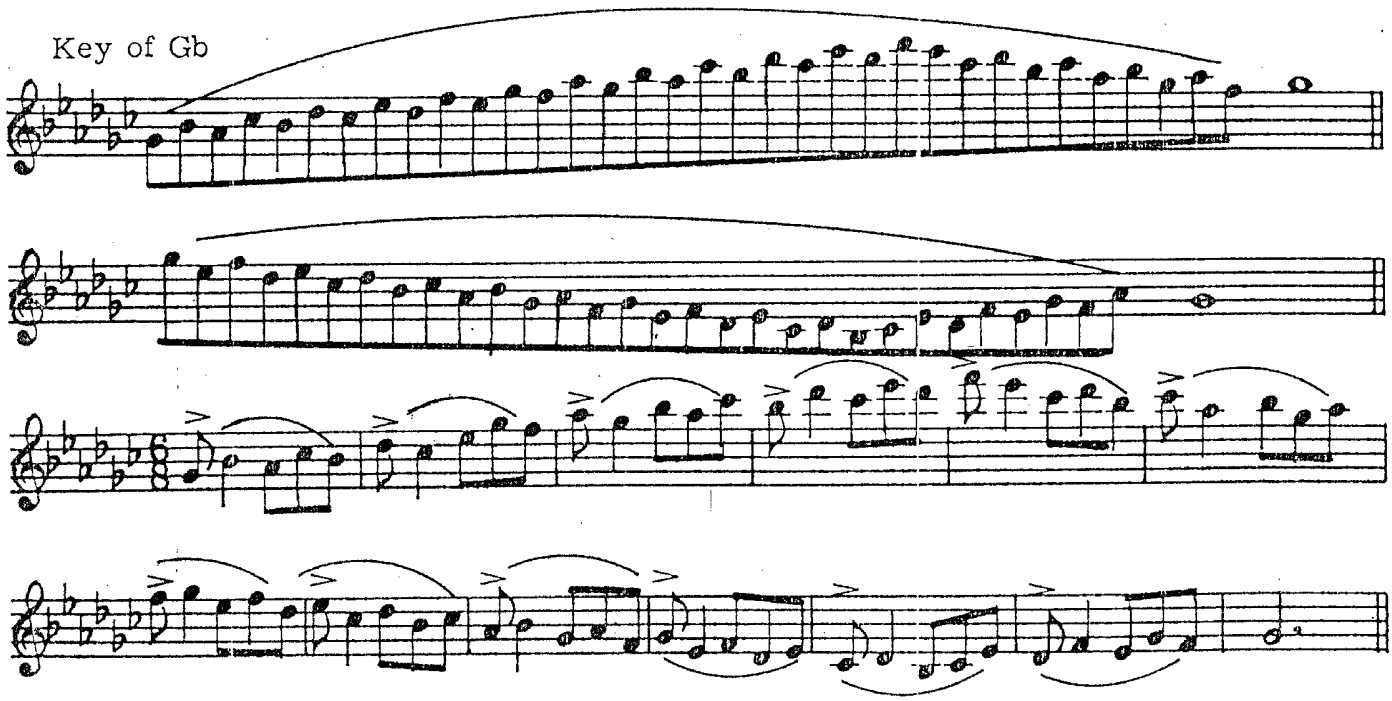
81 Key of Db



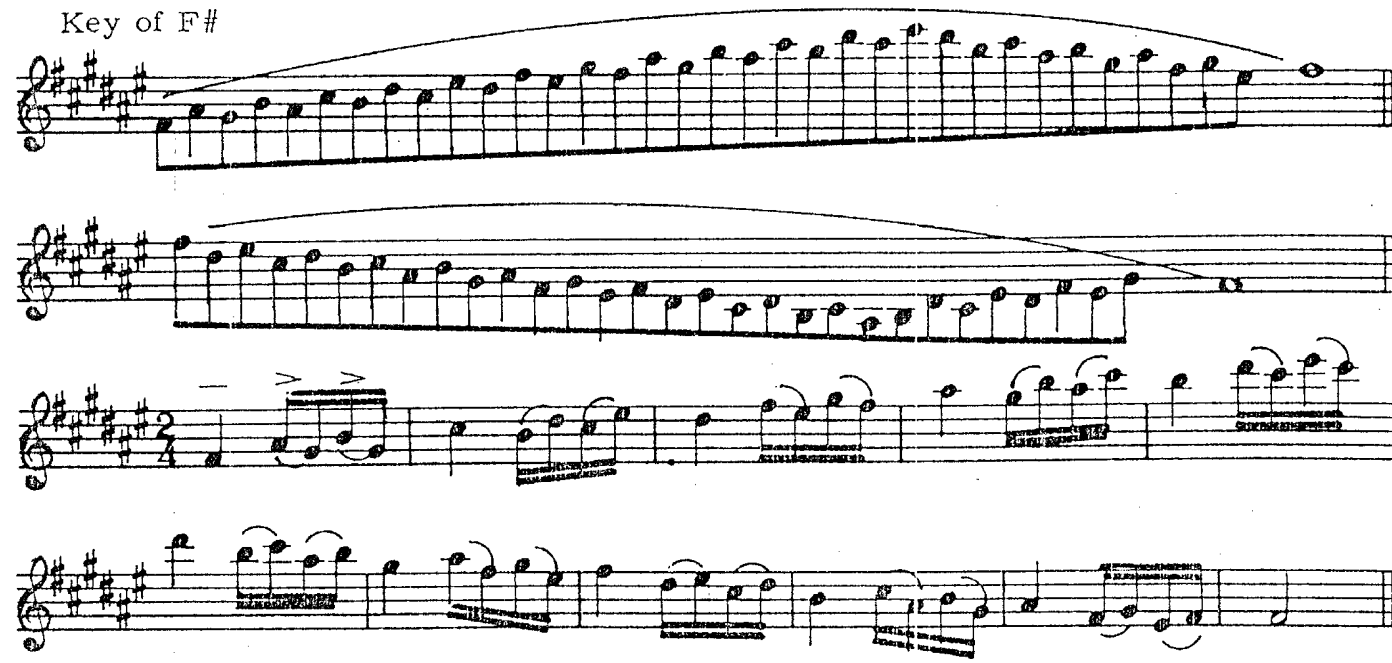
82 Key of B



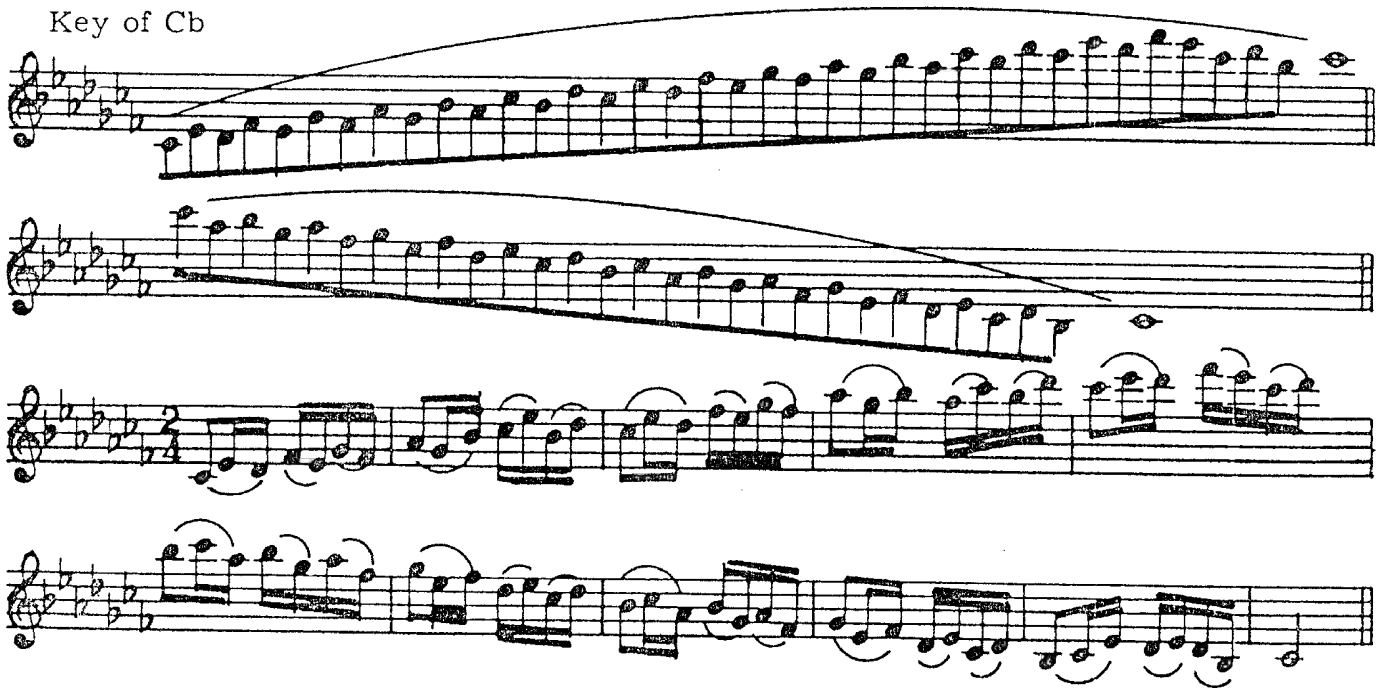
83 Key of Gb



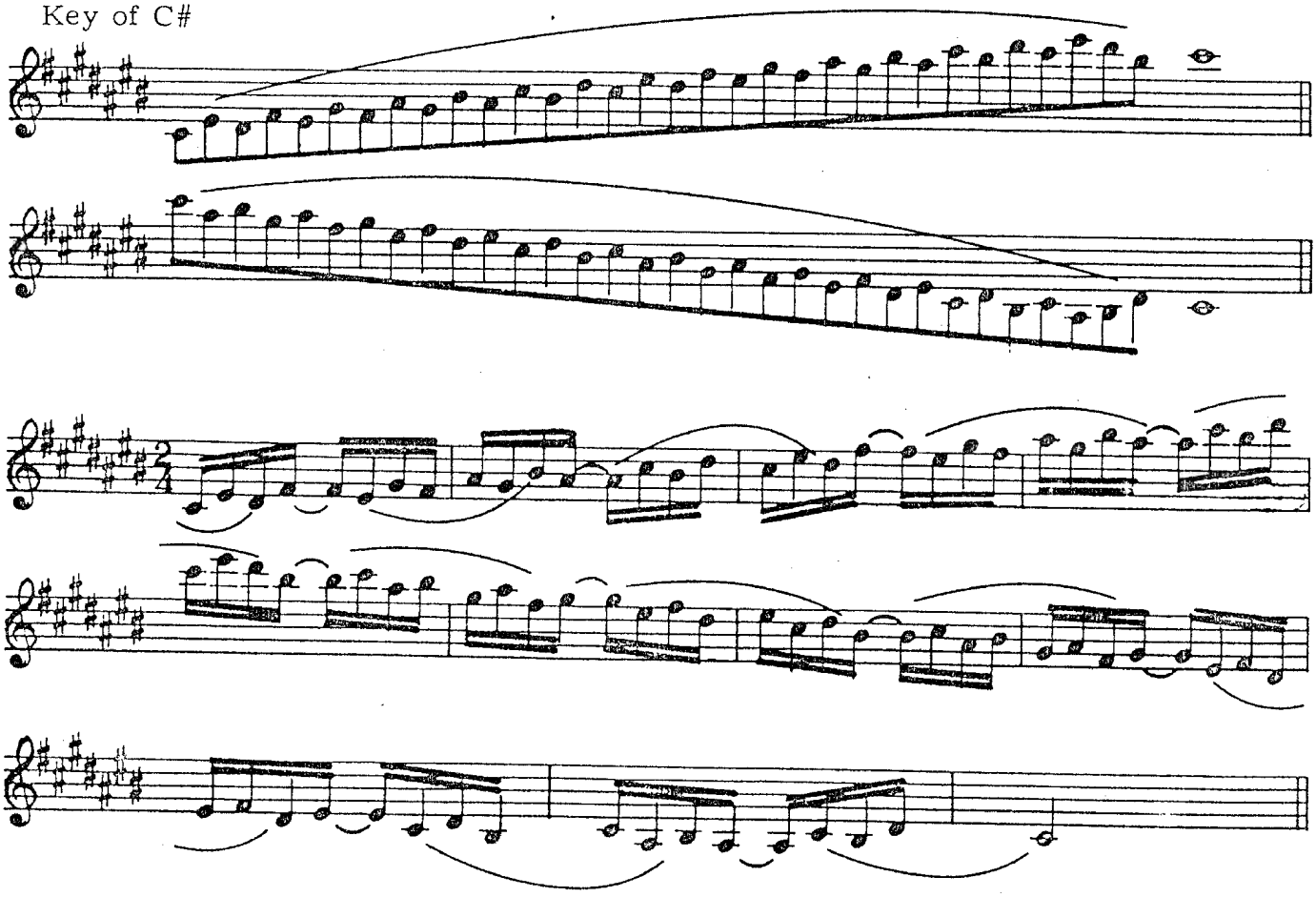
84 Key of F#



85 Key of Cb



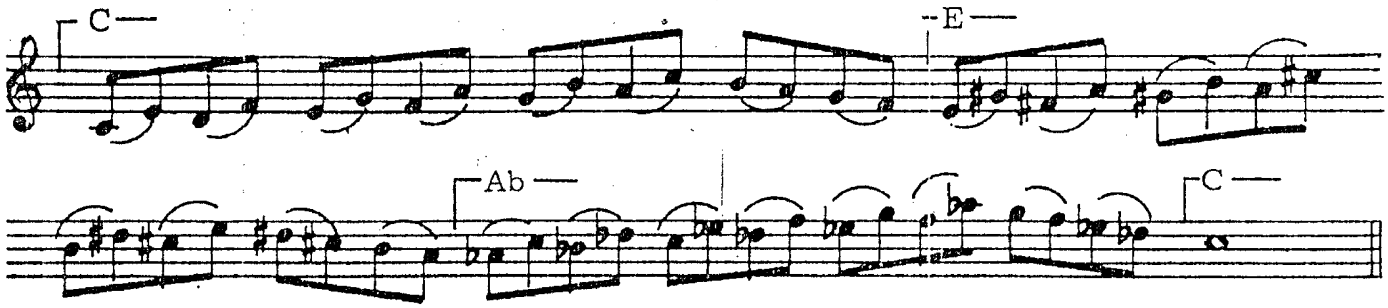
86 Key of C#



DIADS - POLYTONAL VARIATIONS

(see author's notes) .

87



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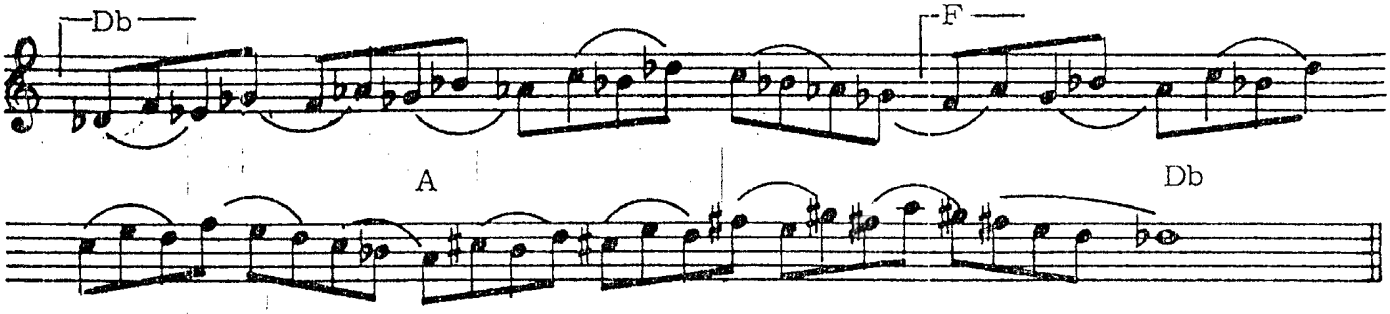

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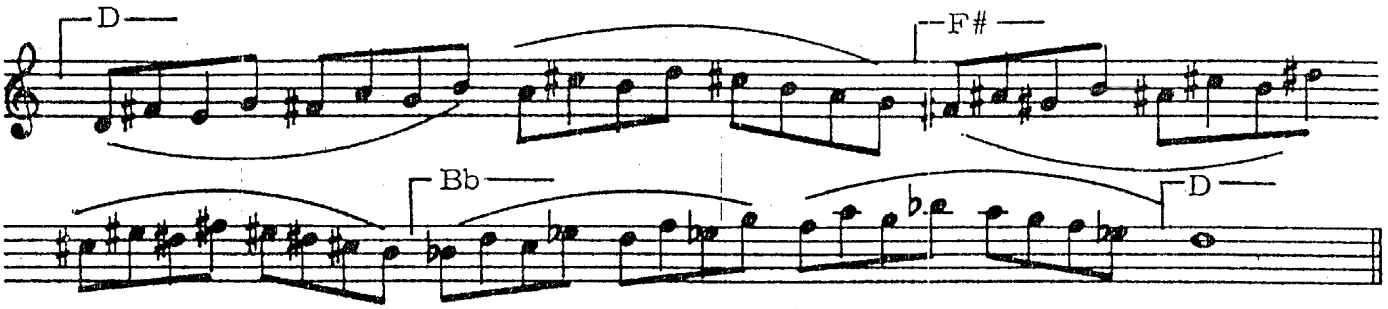

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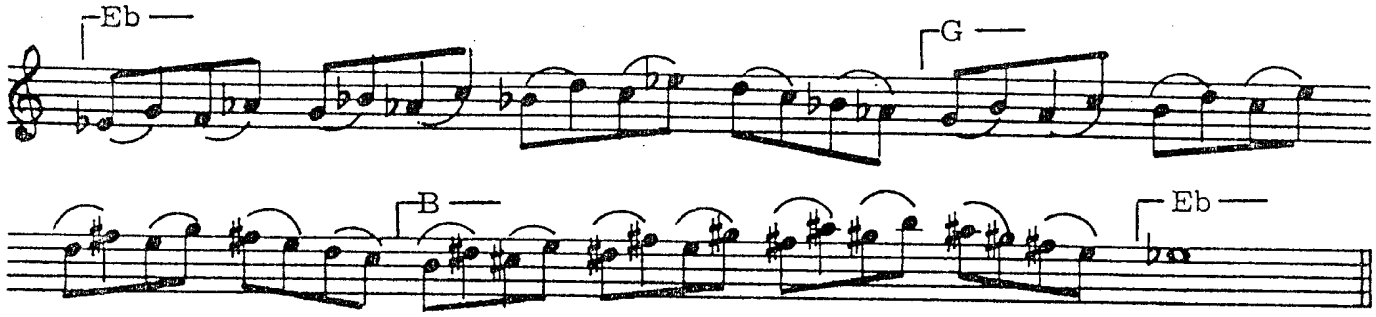
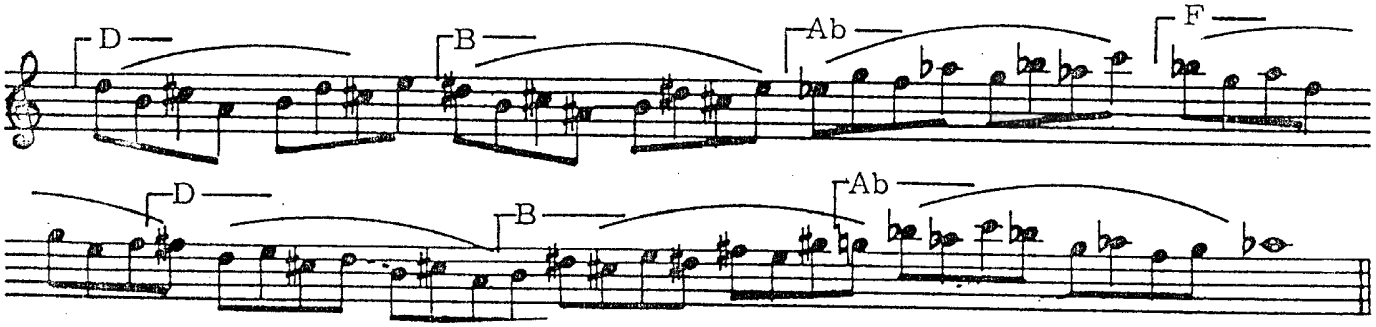

Eb
G
B
Eb

91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Ab
F
D
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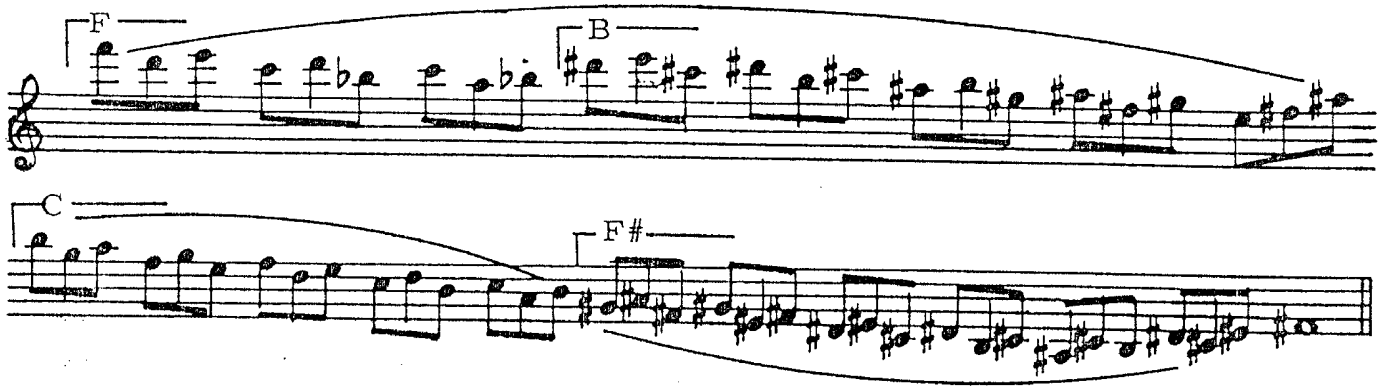
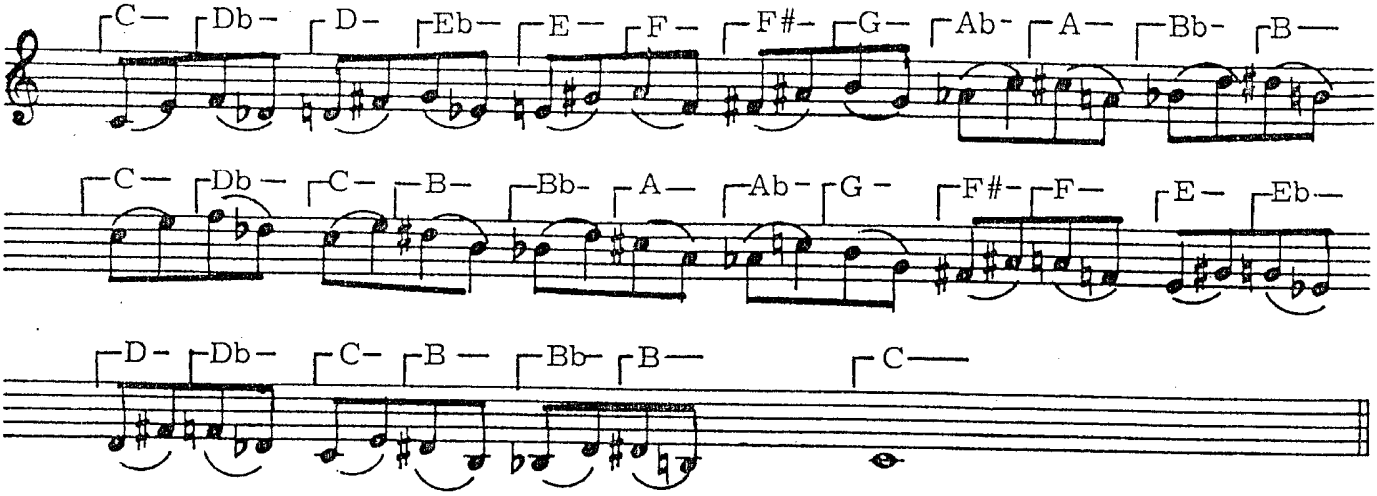
Ab

92


F
B
C
F#

93


C
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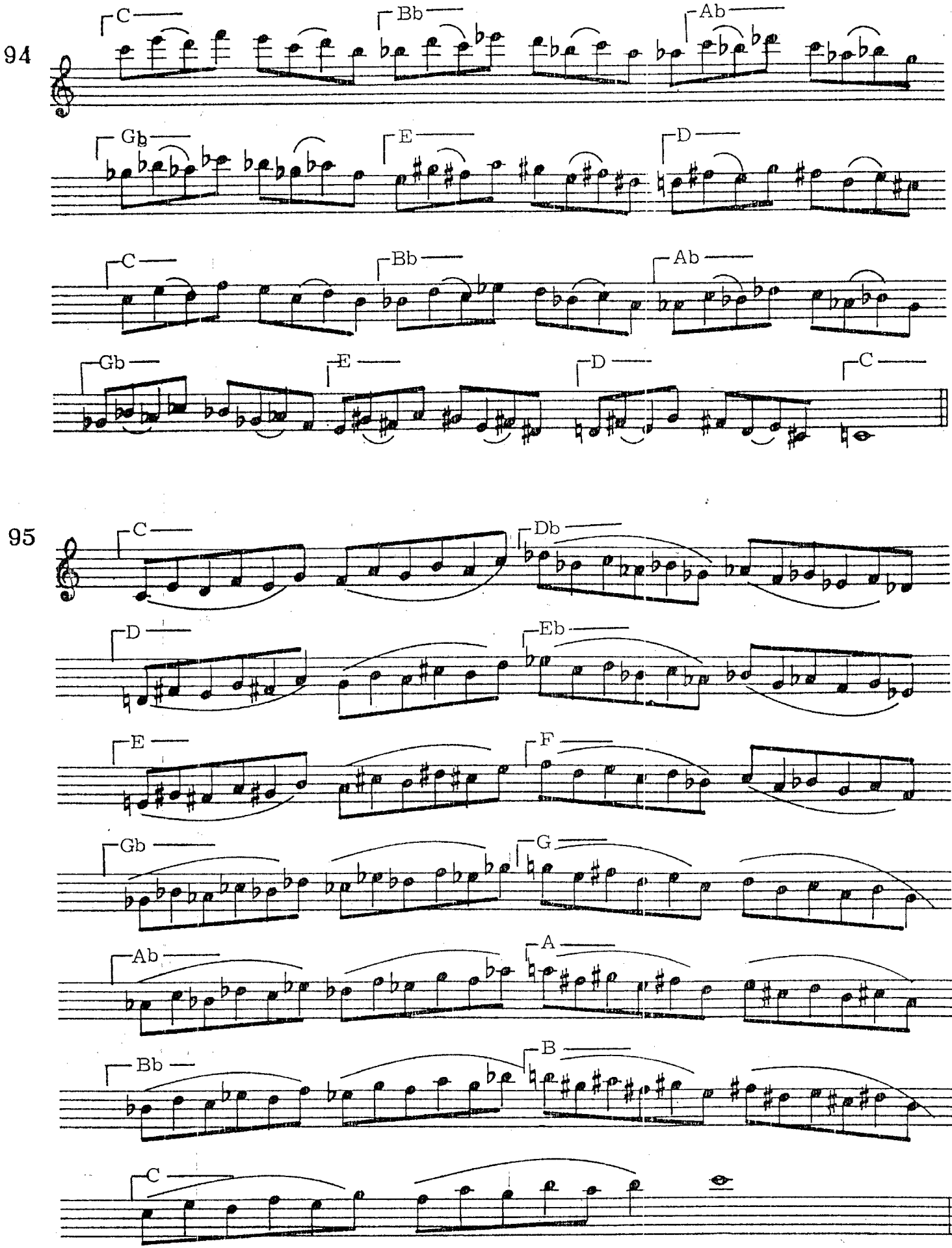
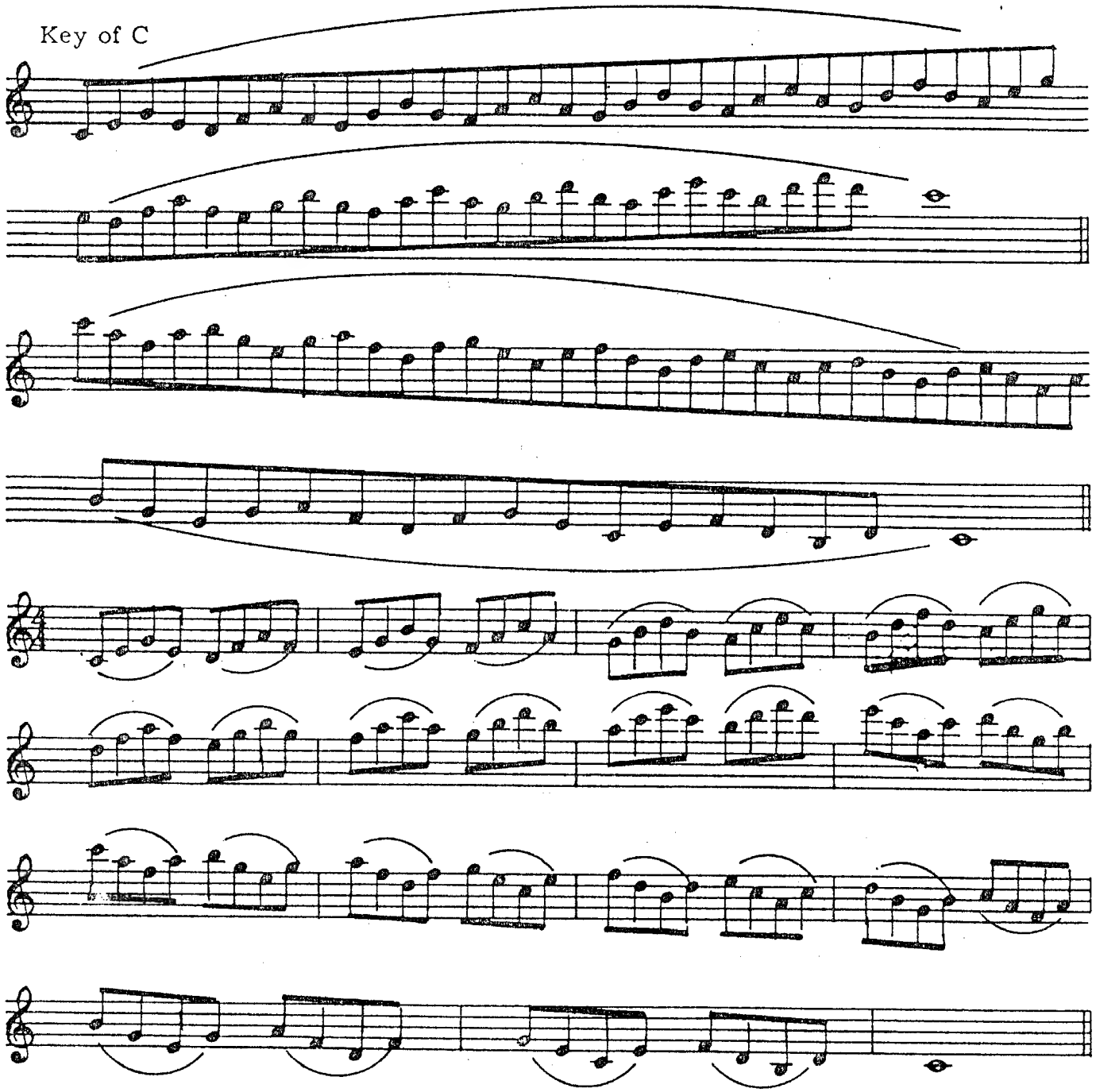
Ab
A
Bb
B
C
Db
C
B
Bb
A
Ab
G
F#
F
E
Eb
D
Db
C
B
Bb
B
C


94
C
Bb
Ab
Gb
E
D
C
Bb
Ab
Gb
E
D
C
95
C
Db
D
Eb
E
F
Gb
G
Ab
A
Bb
B
C

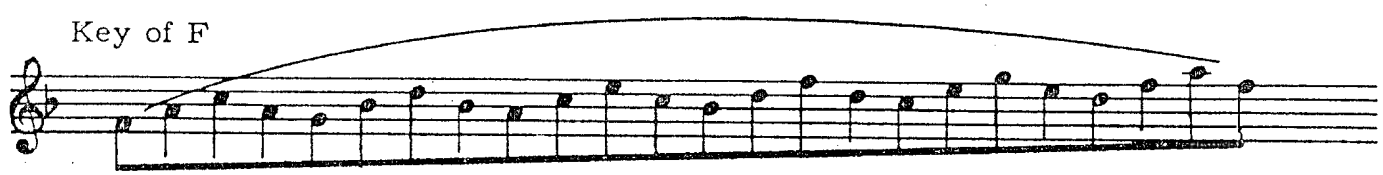
Section III

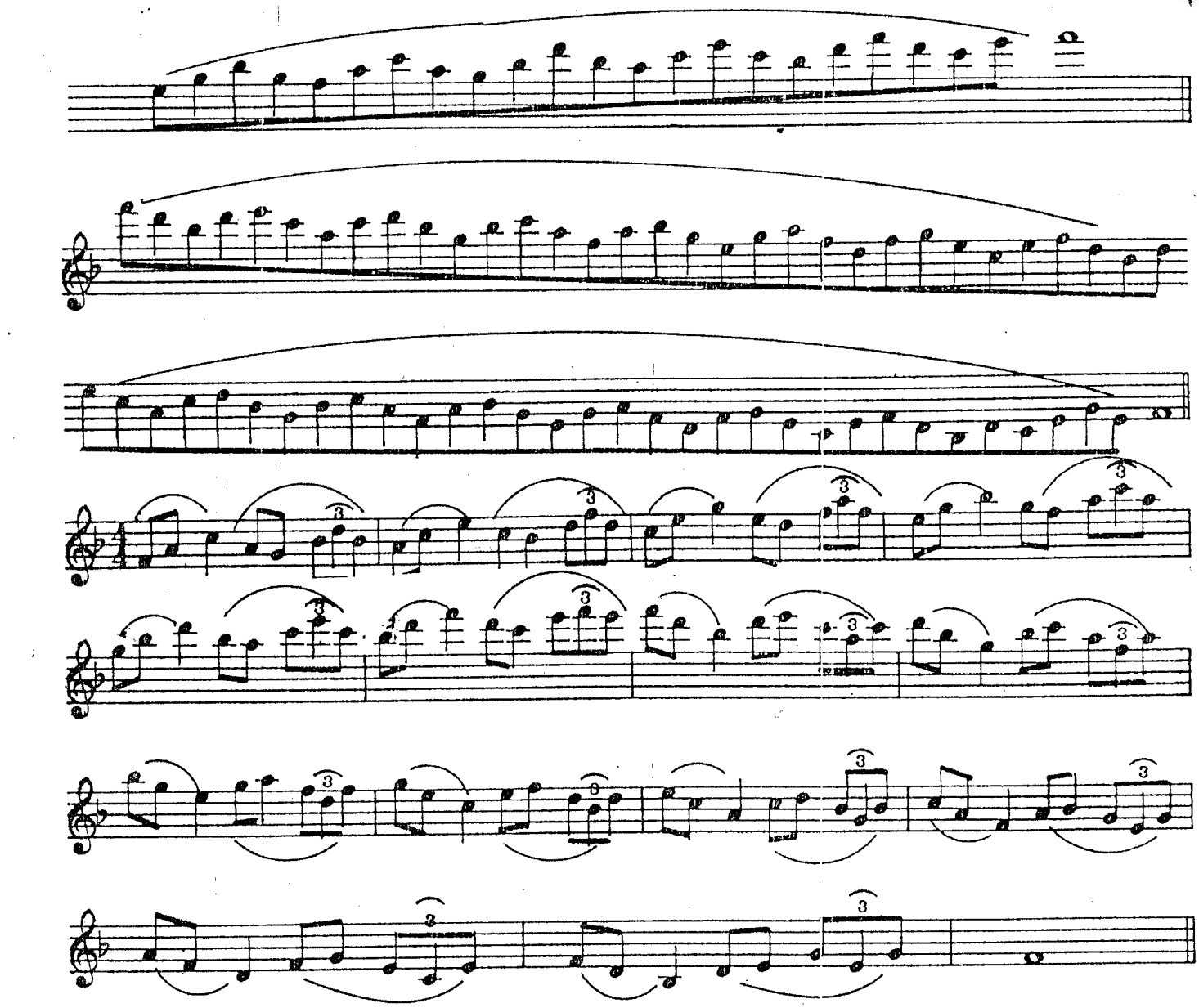
TRIADS - TONAL VARIATIONS

96 Key of C



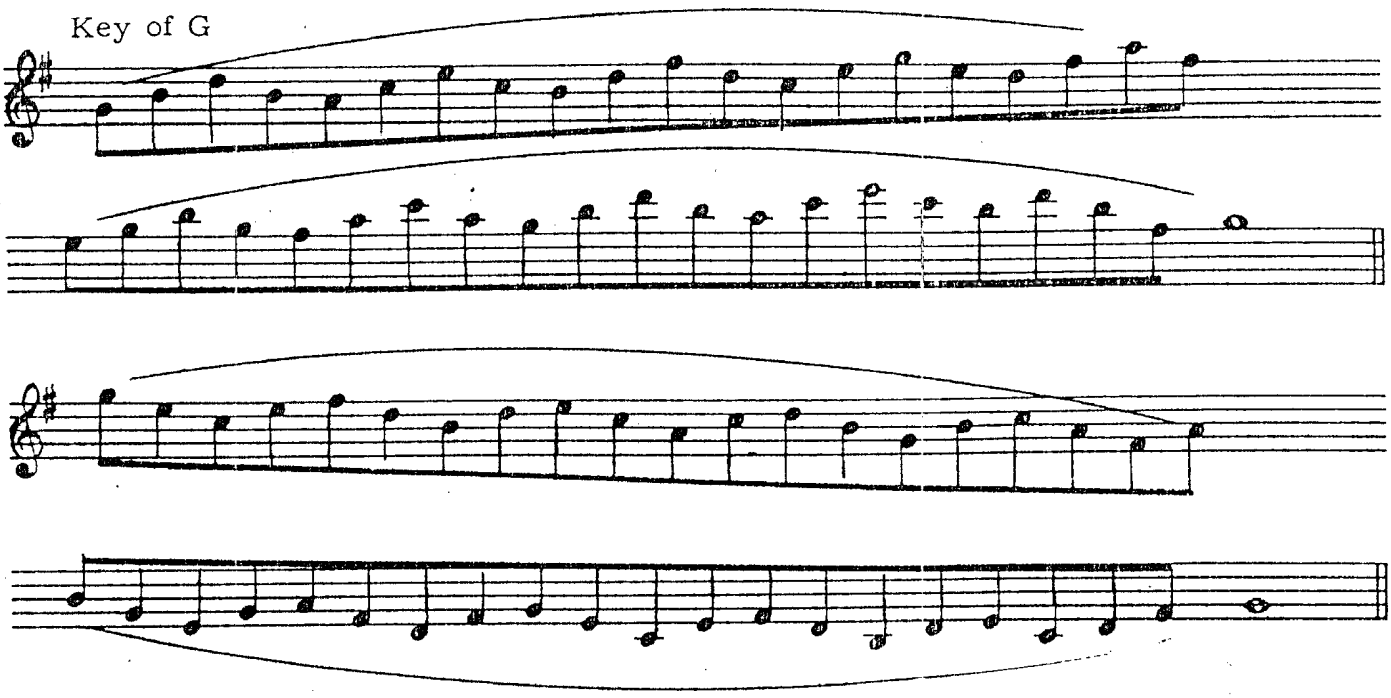
97 Key of F

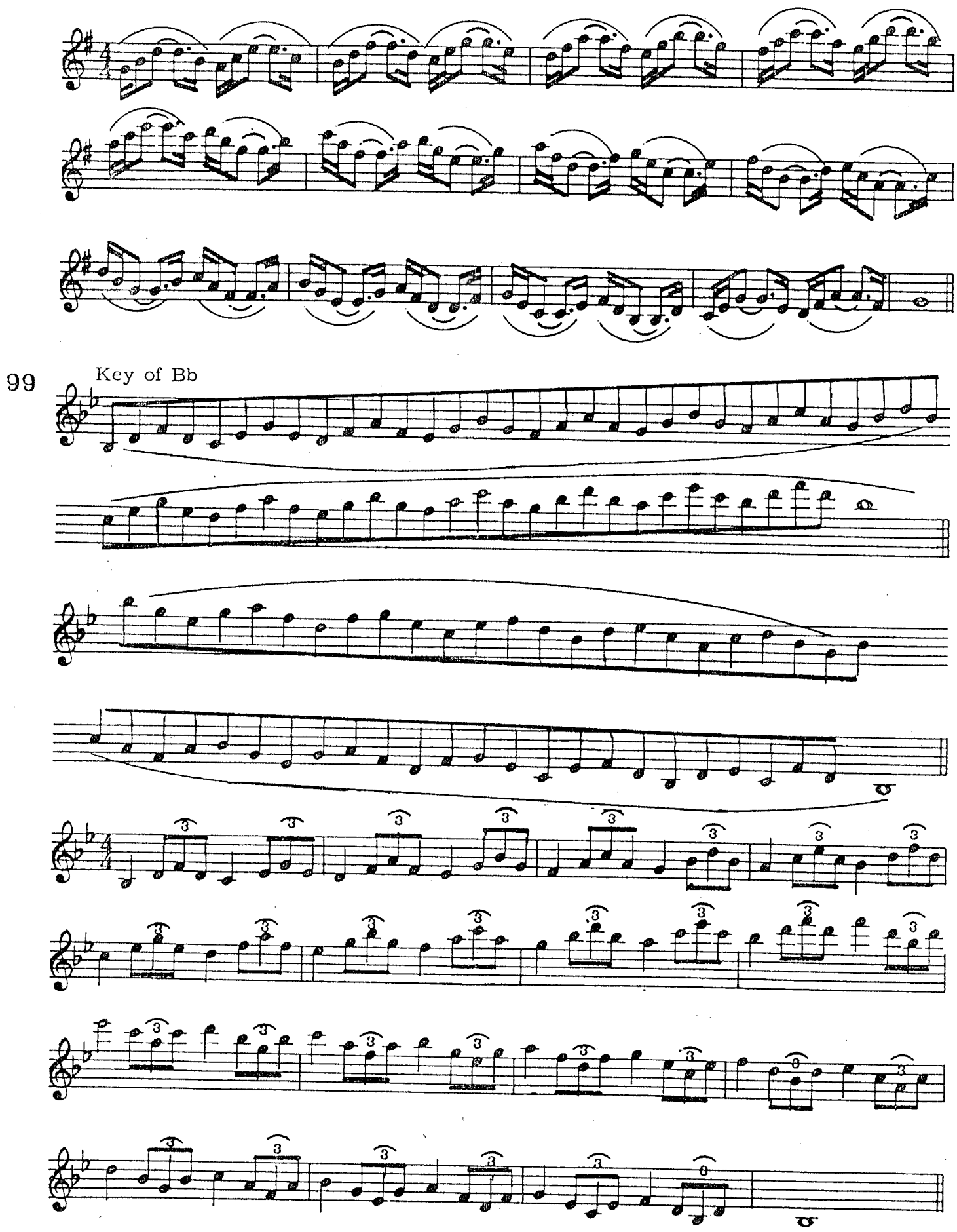




98

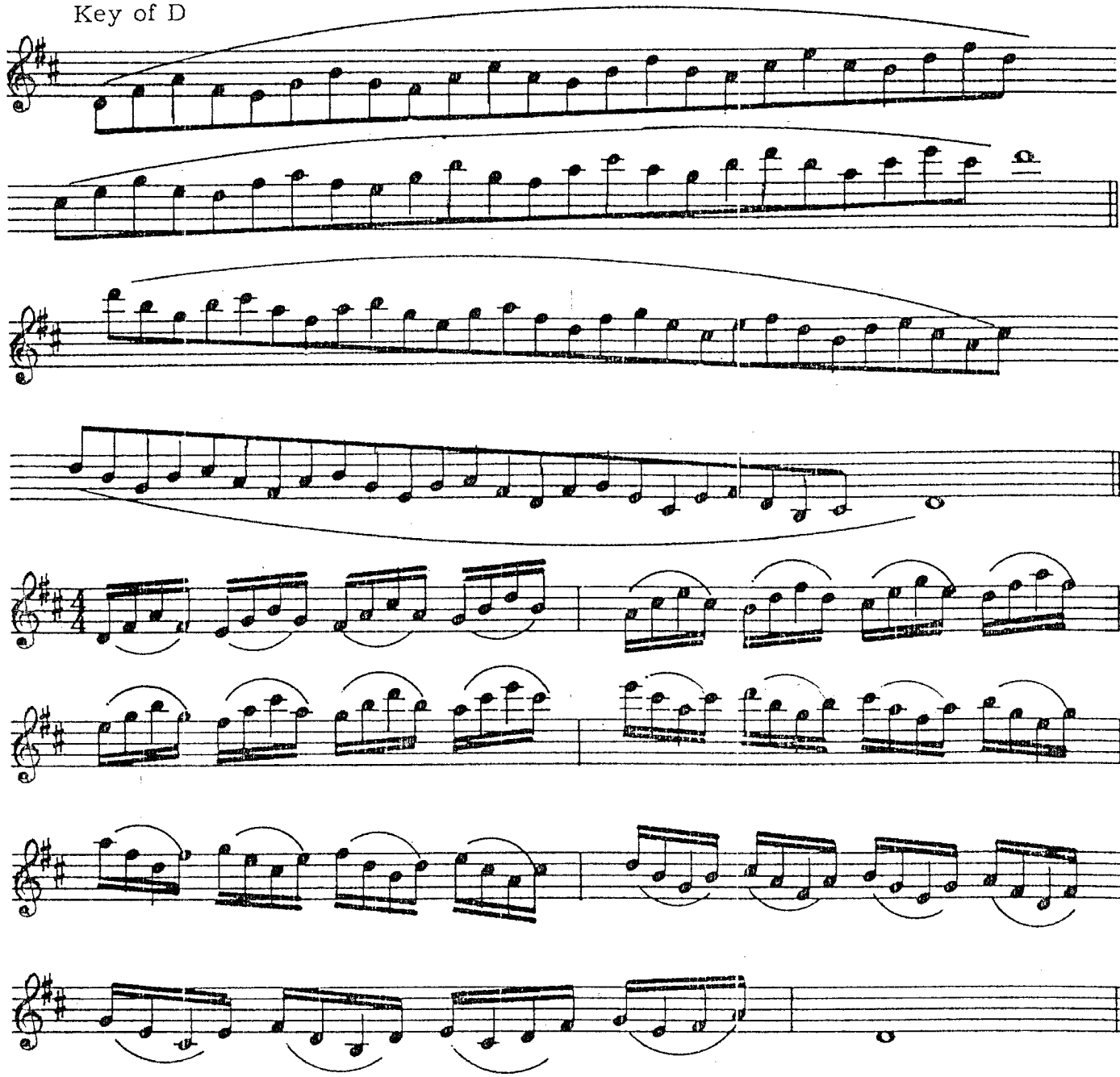
Key of G



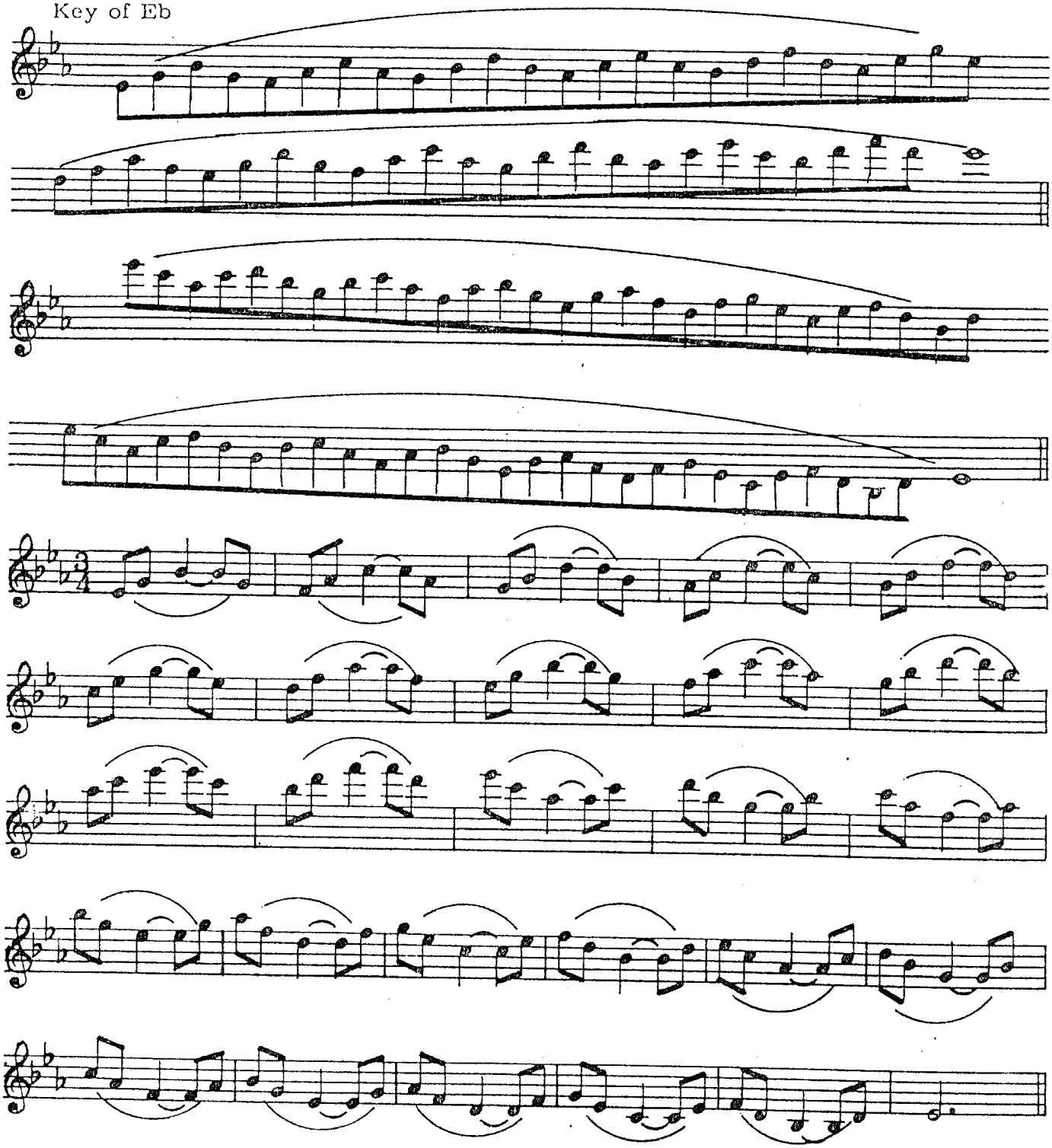

99
Key of Bb

100

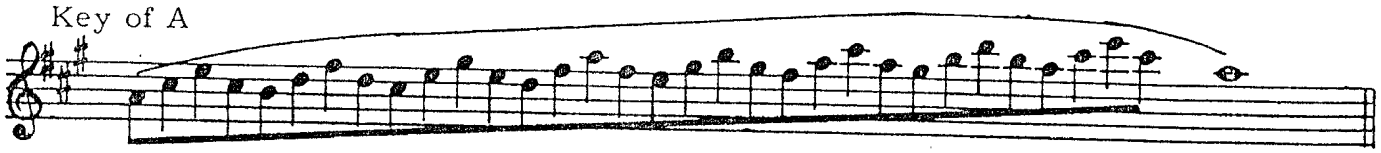
Key of D

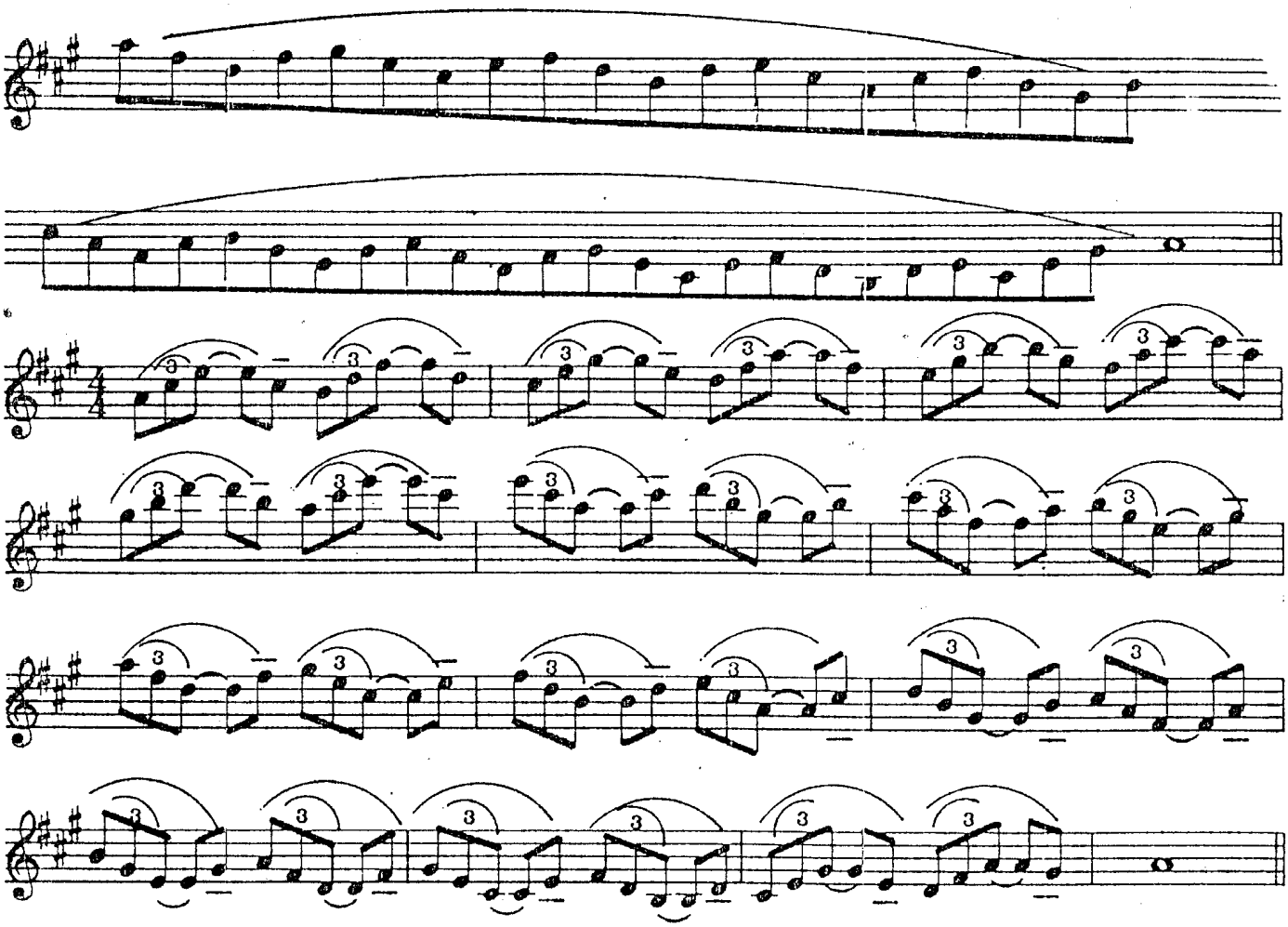


101 Key of Eb

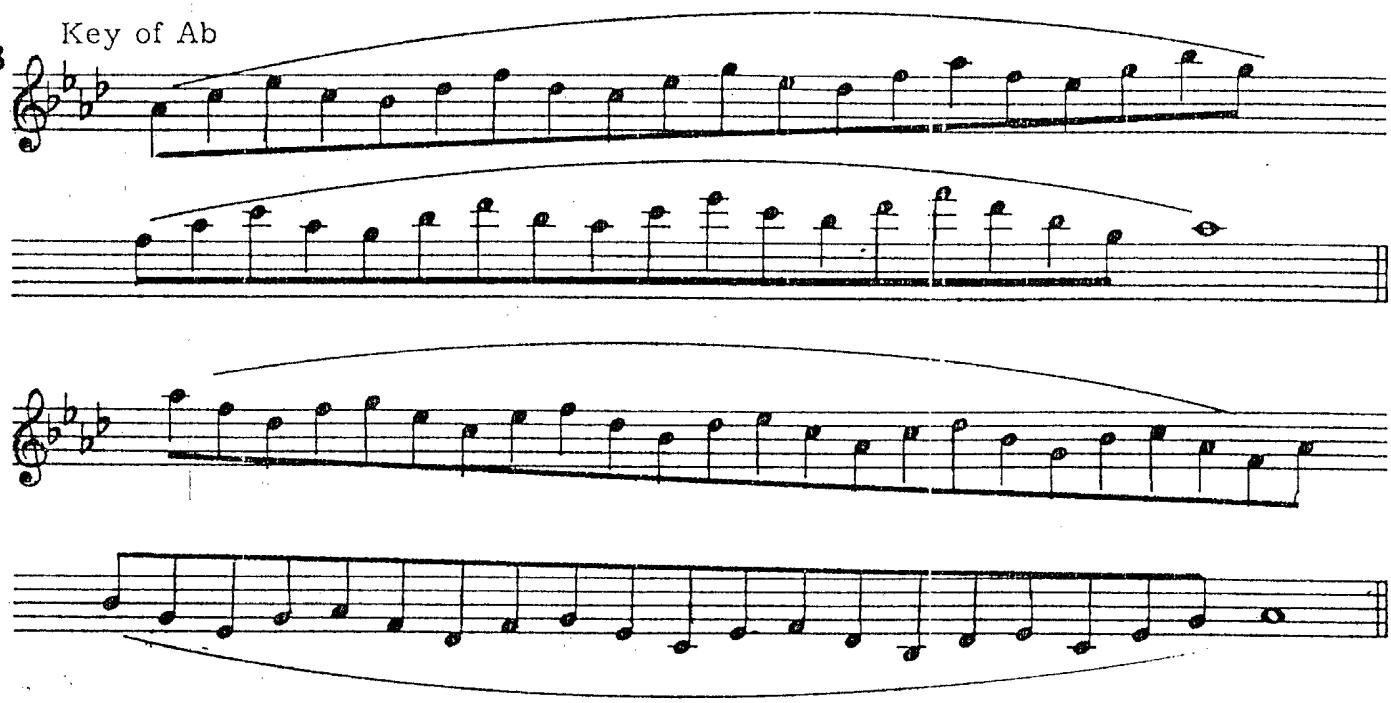


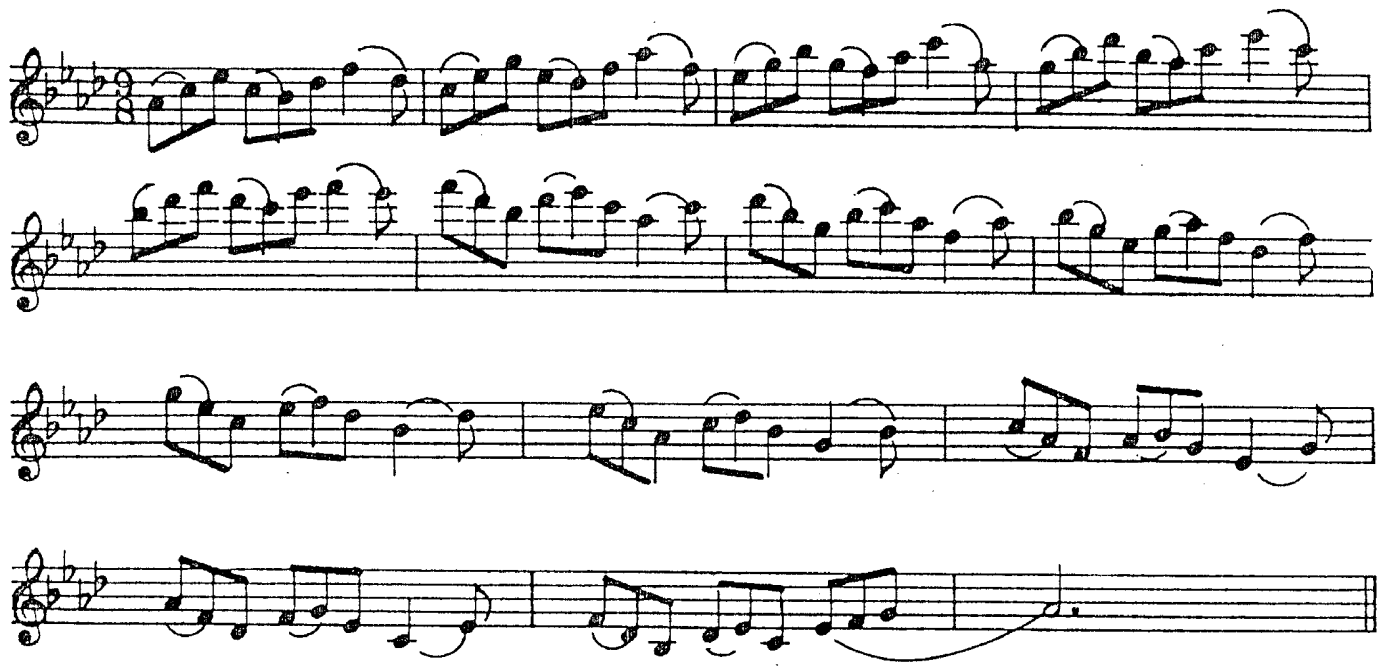
102 Key of A





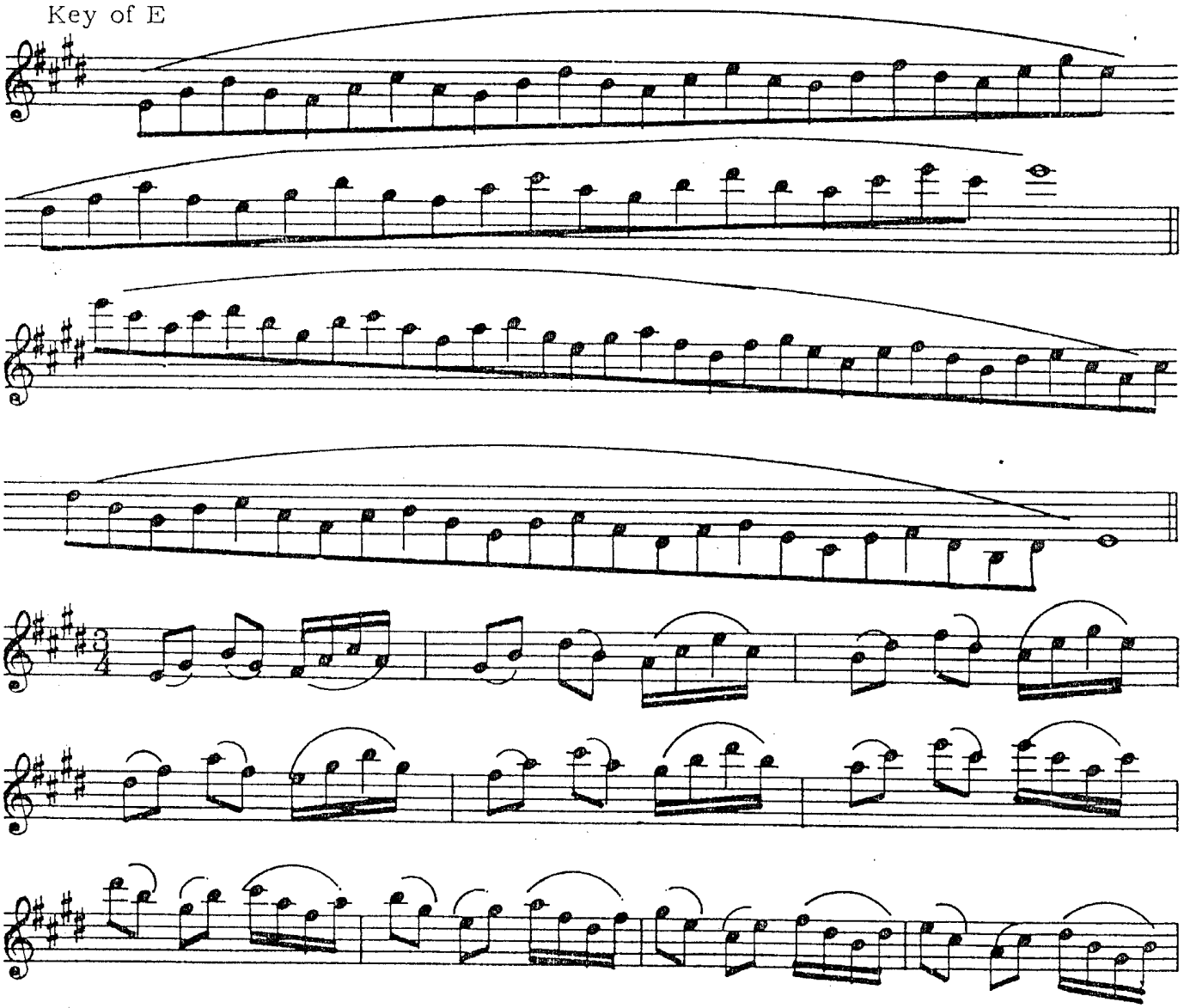
103 Key of Ab

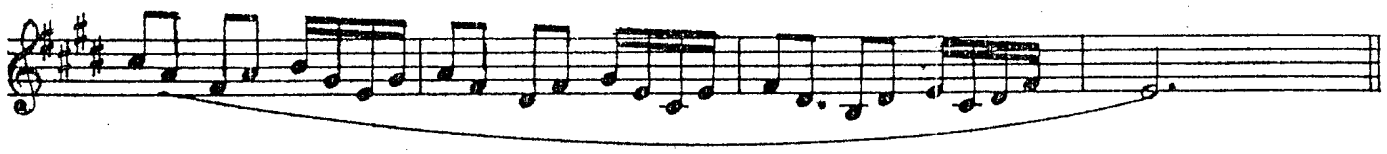




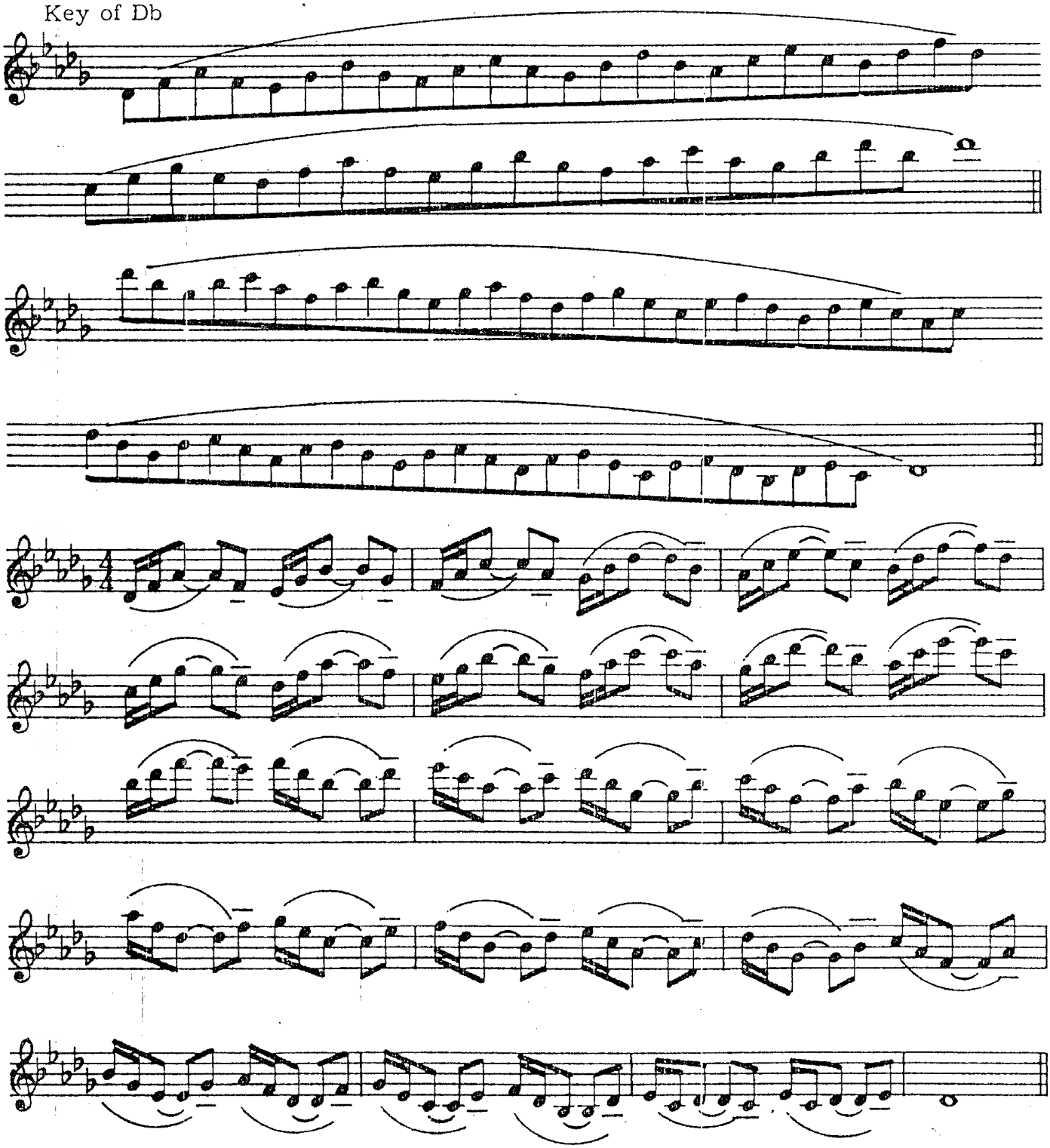
104

Key of E

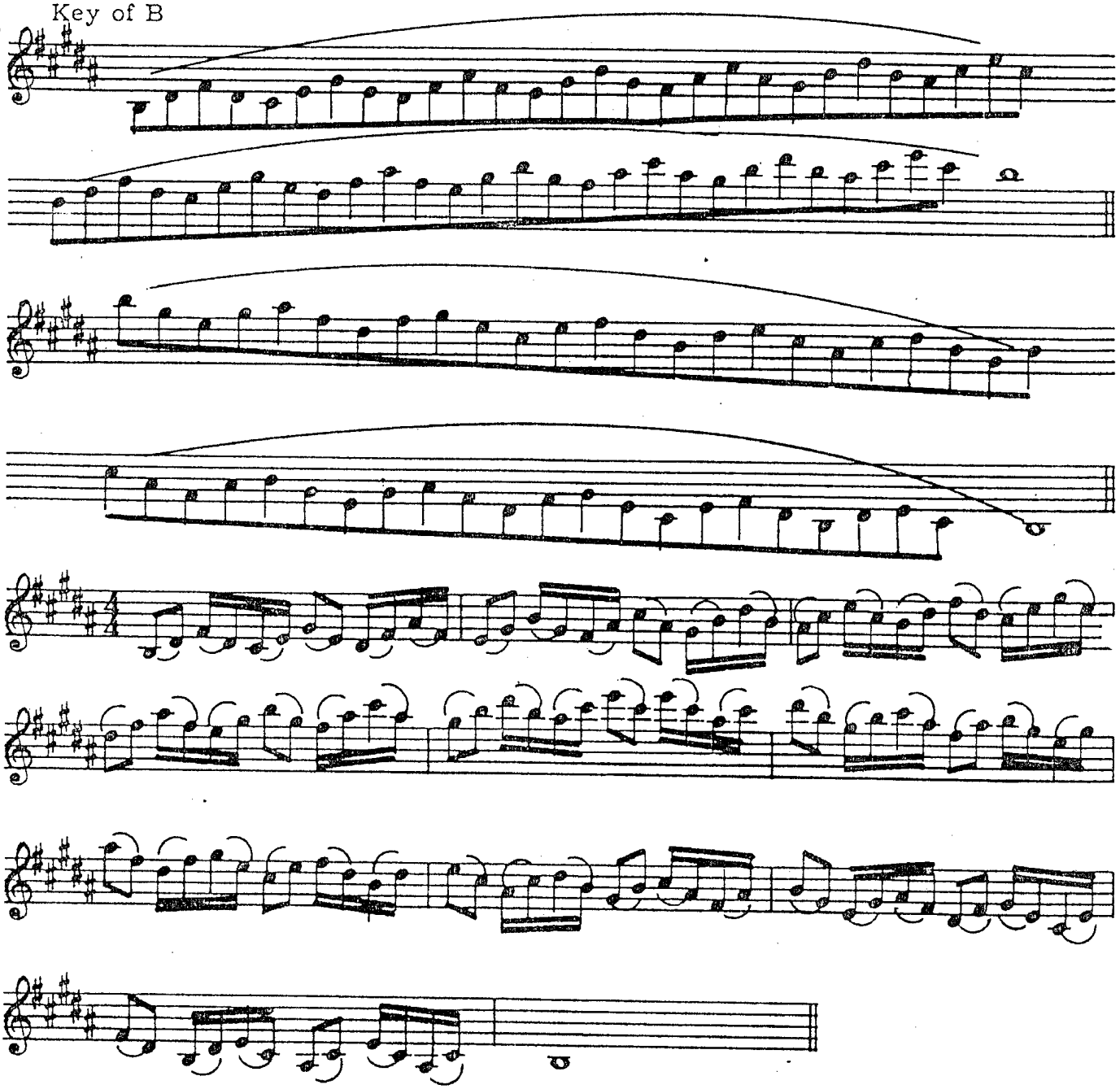




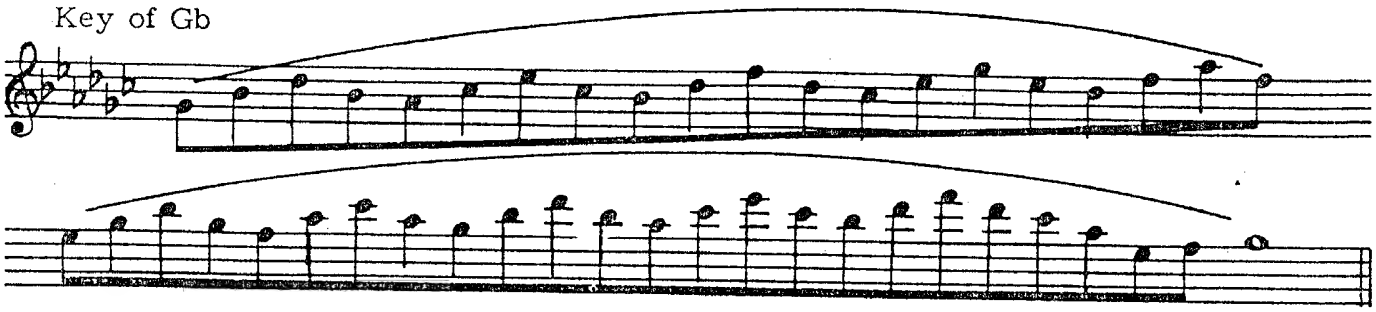
105 Key of Db

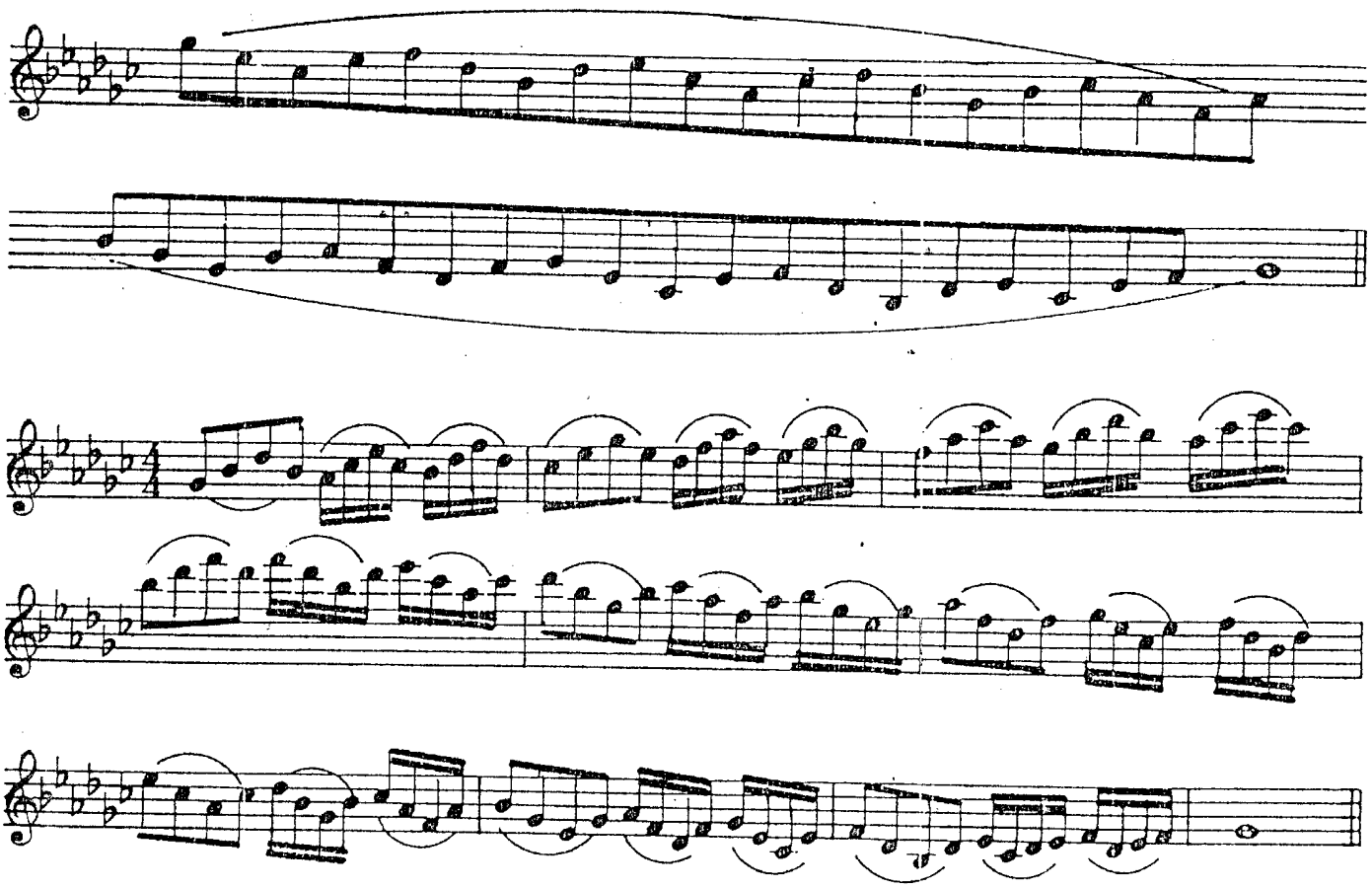


106 Key of B



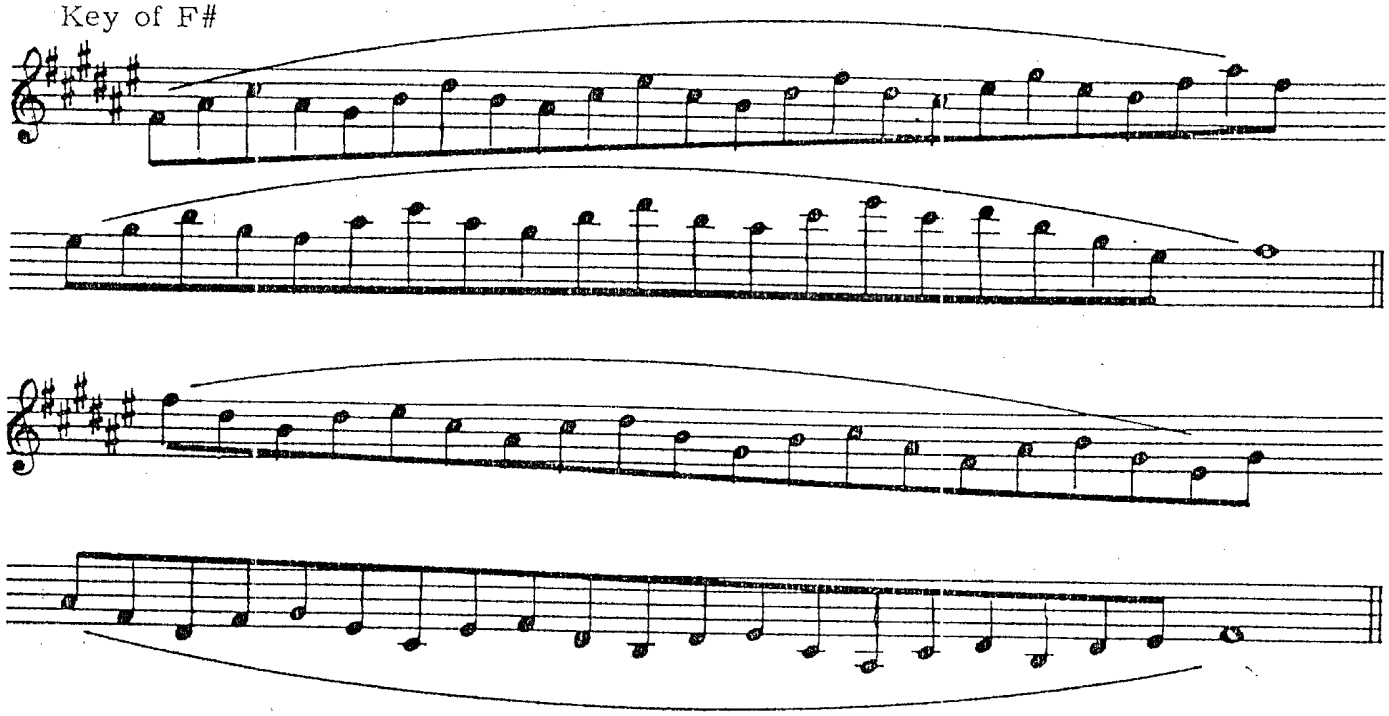
107 Key of Gb

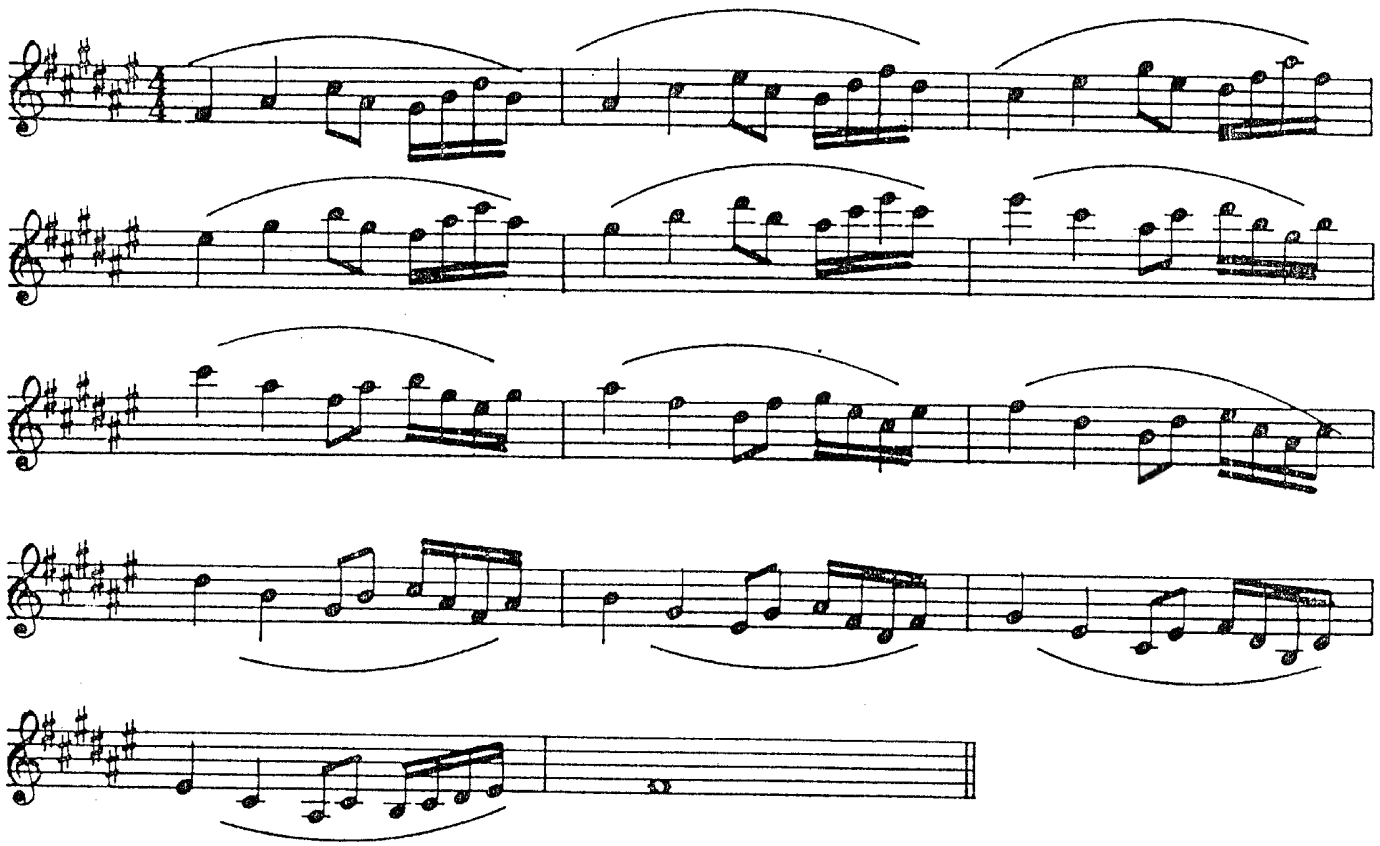




108

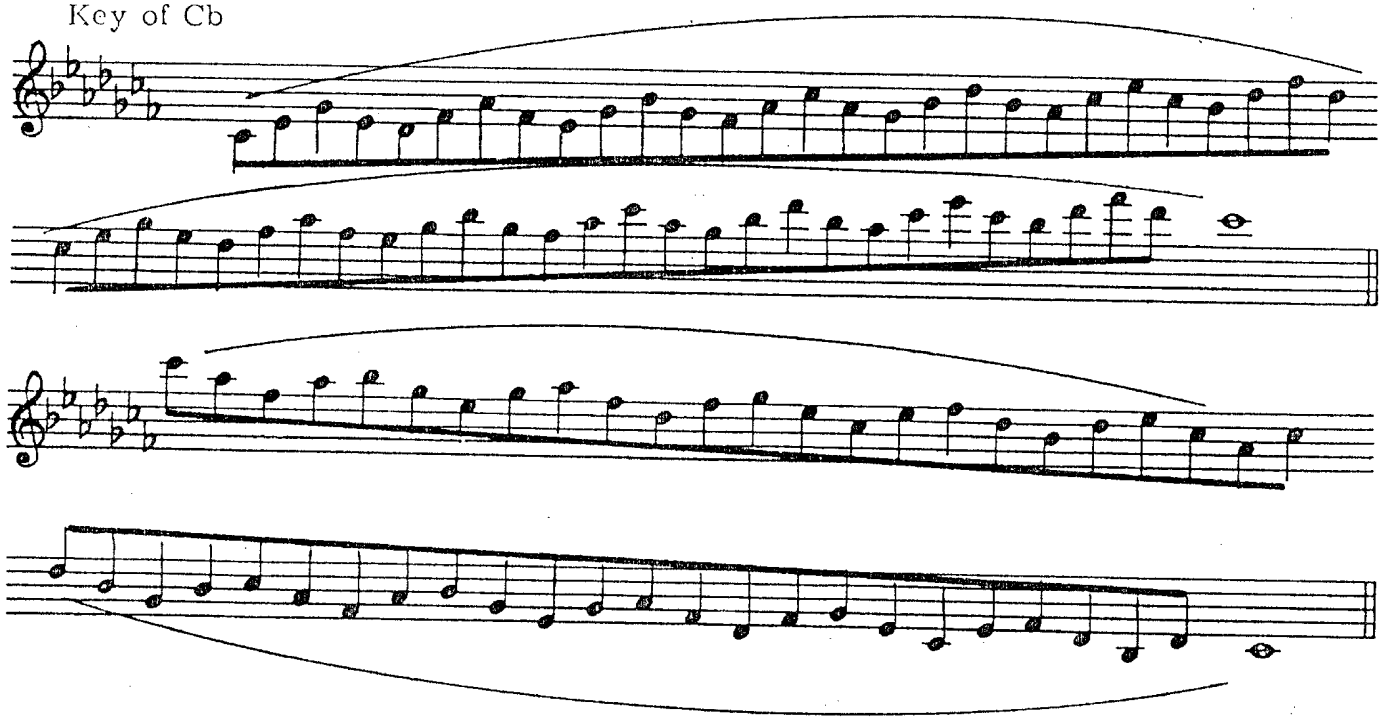
Key of F#

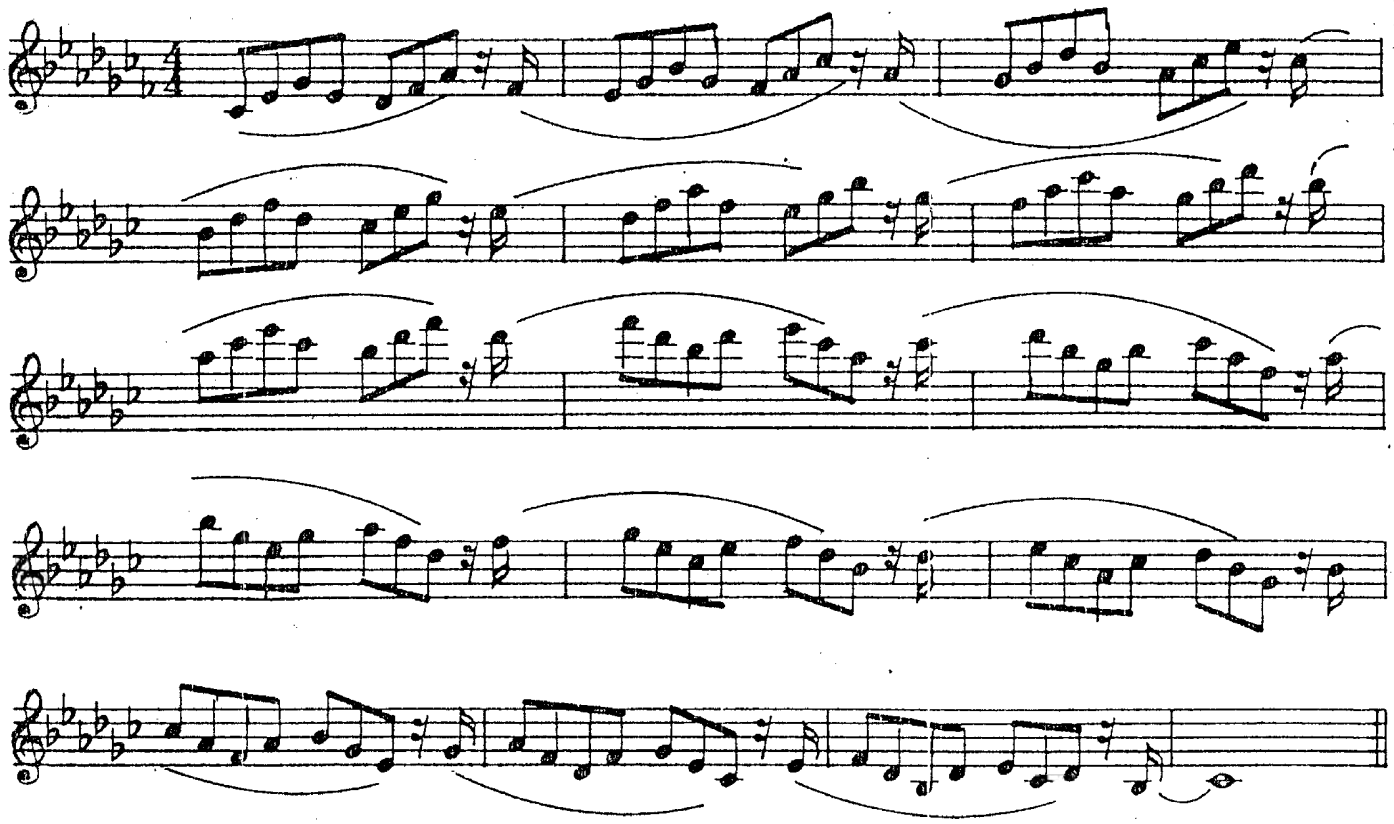




109

Key of Cb

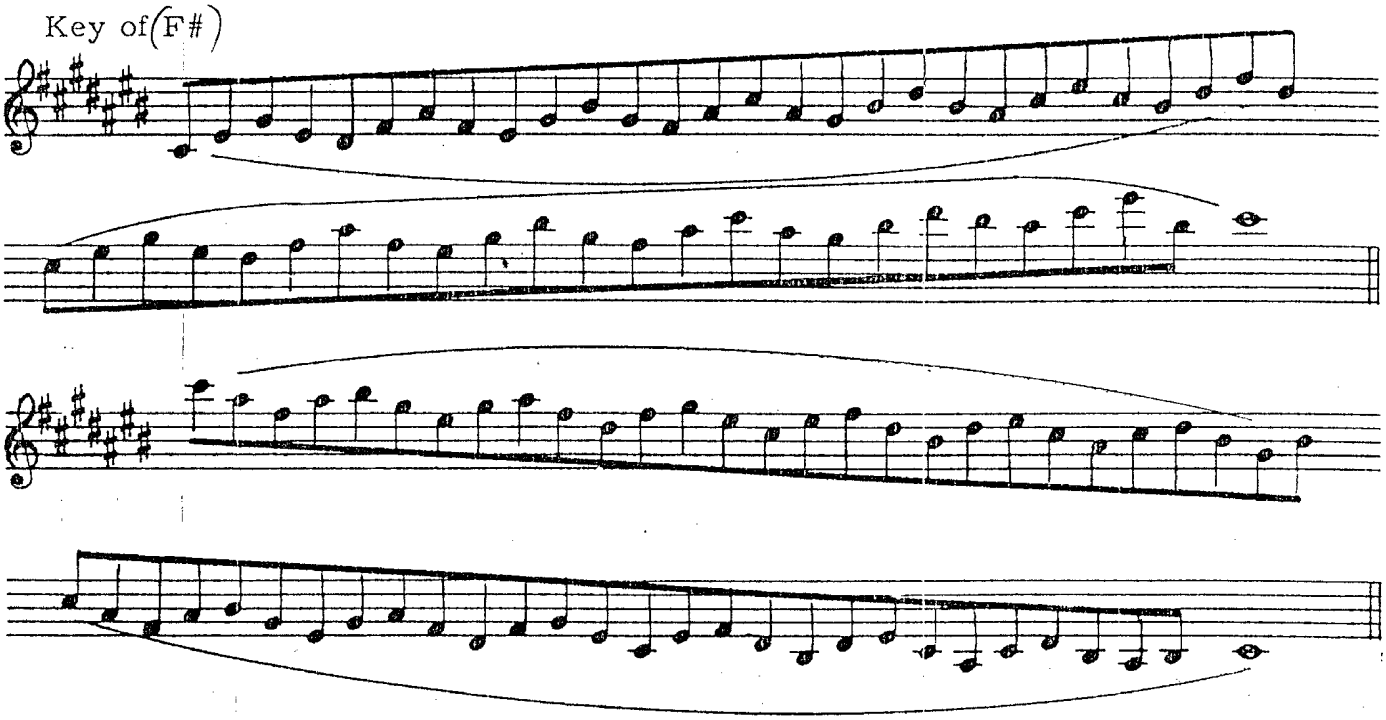


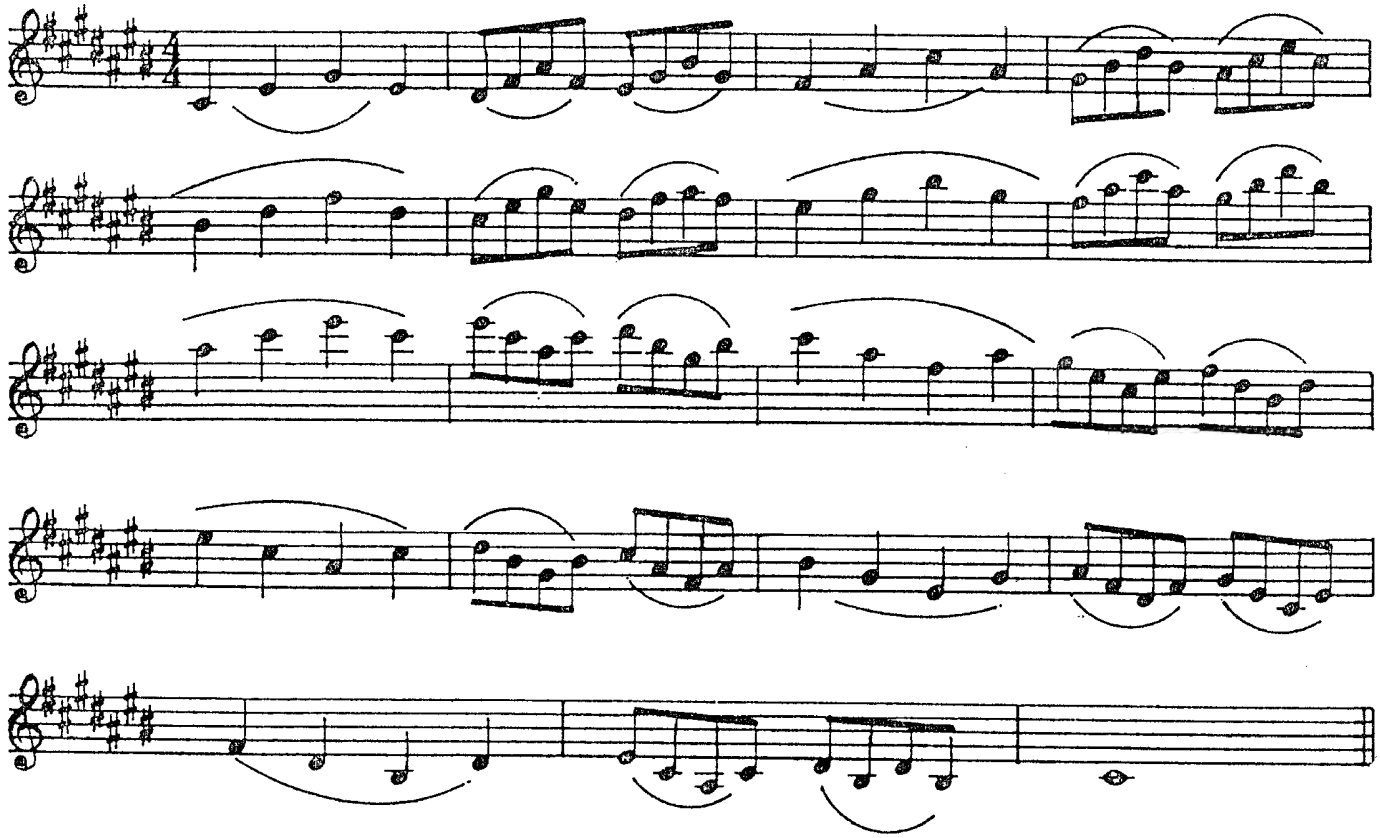


C♯

Key of (F#)

110

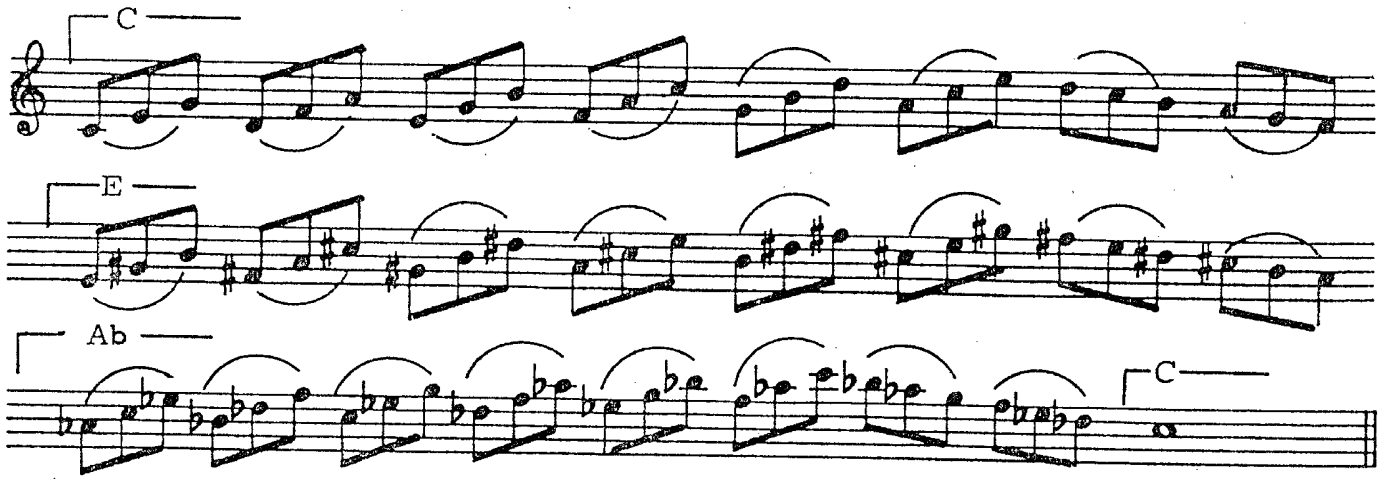




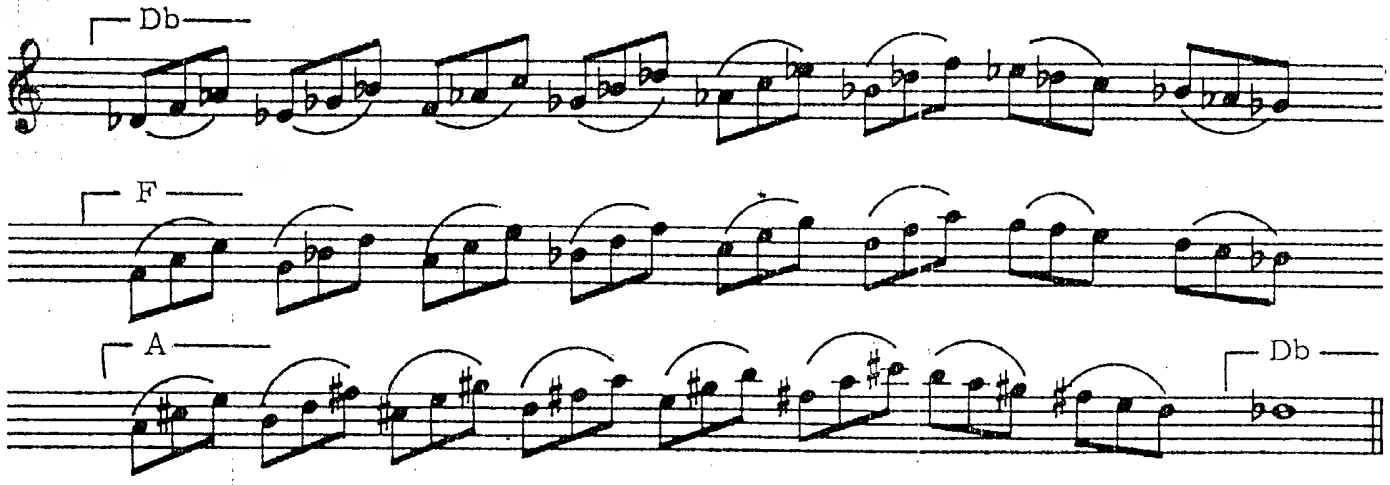
TRIADS - POLYTONAL VARIATIONS

(see author's notes)

111



112



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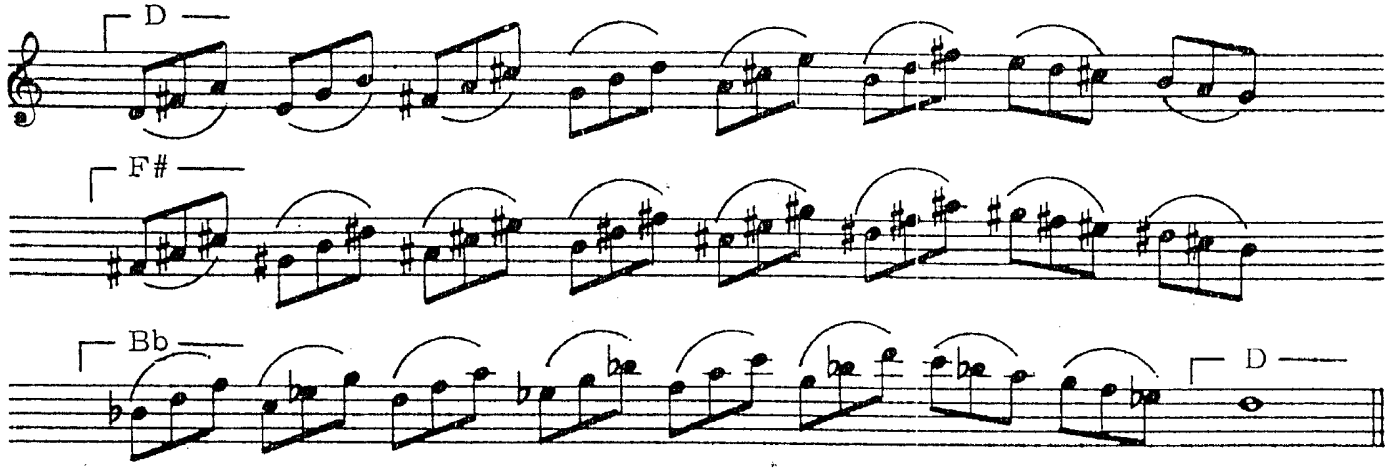
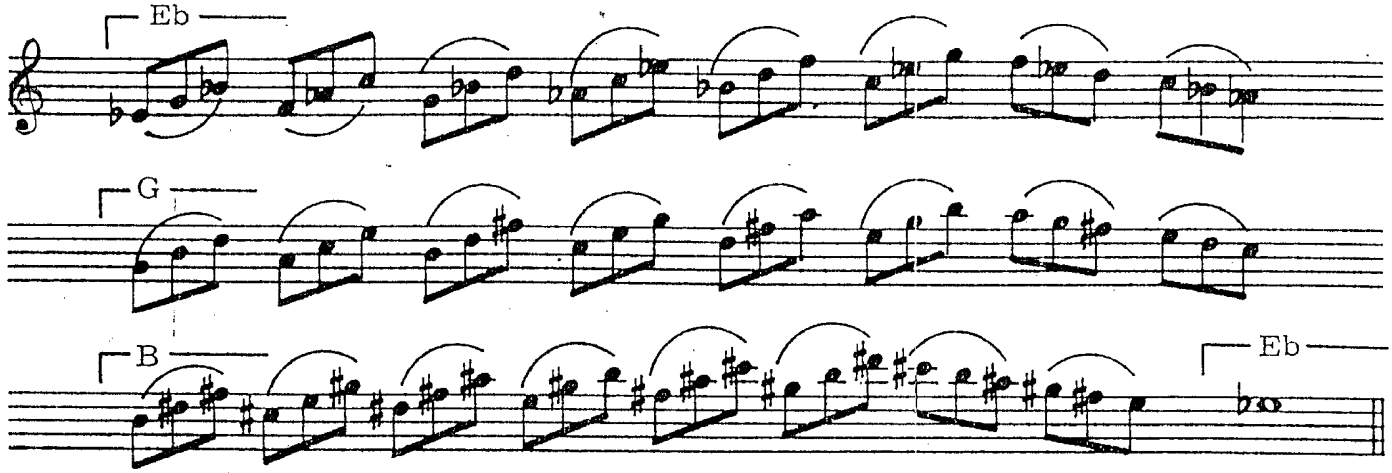
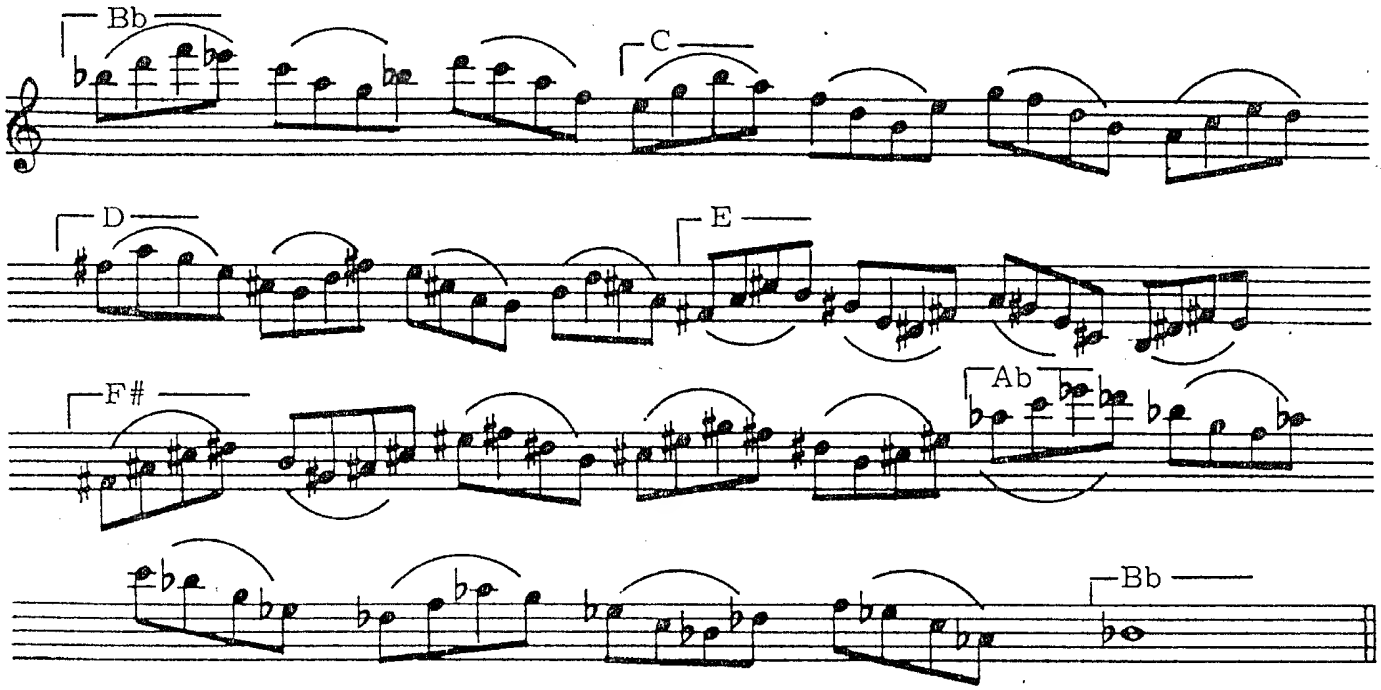


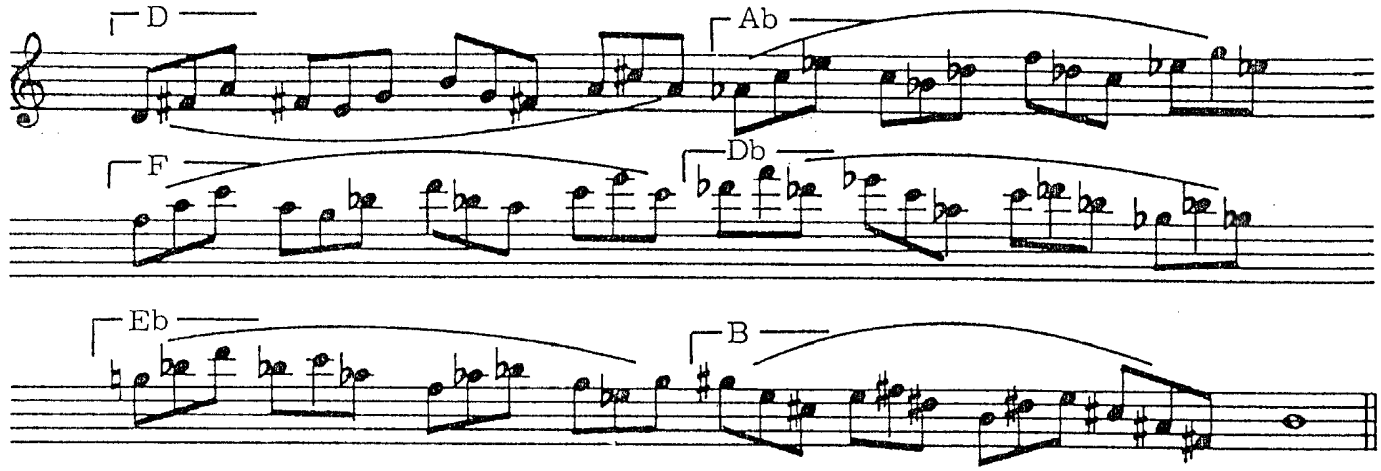
114



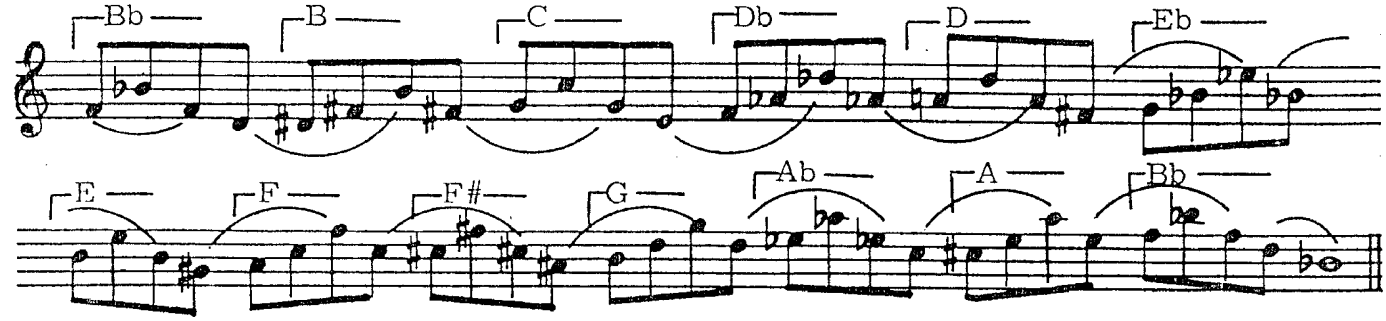
115

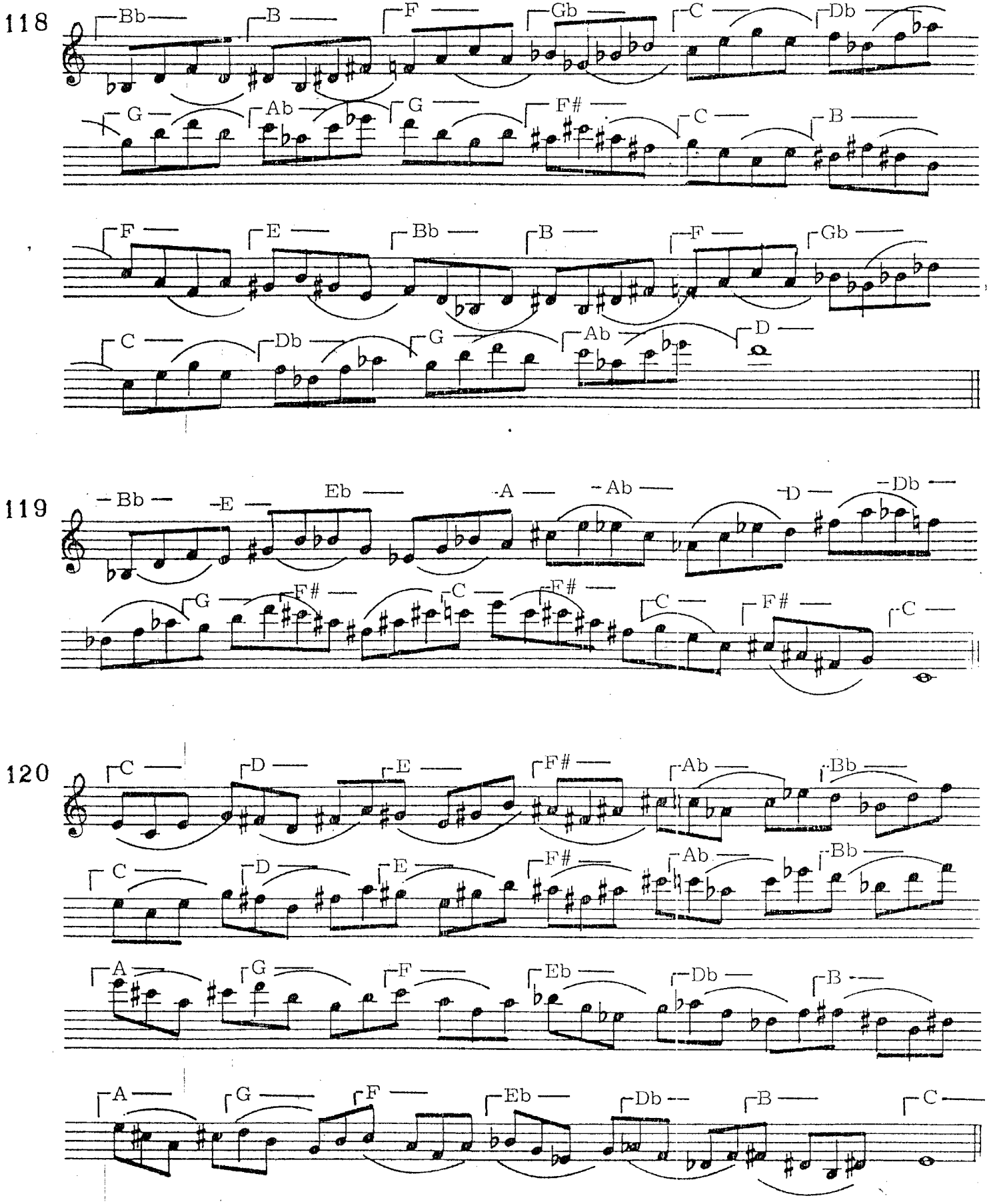


116



117

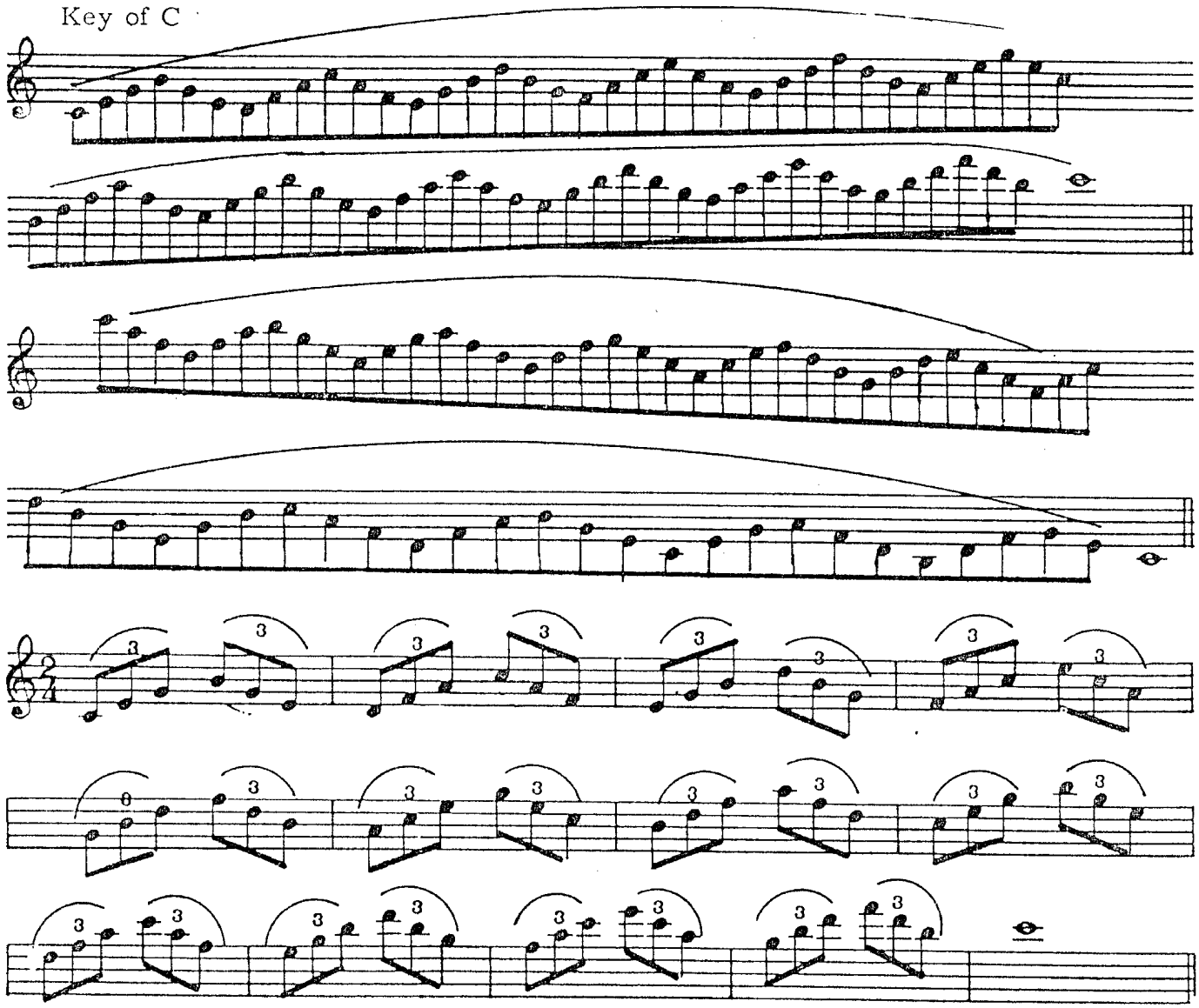



118
Bb B F Gb C Db
G Ab G F# C B
F E Bb B F Gb
C Db G Ab D
119
Bb E Eb A Ab D Db
G F# C F# C F# C
120
C D E F# Ab Bb
C D E F# Ab Bb
A G F Eb Db B
A G F Eb Db B C

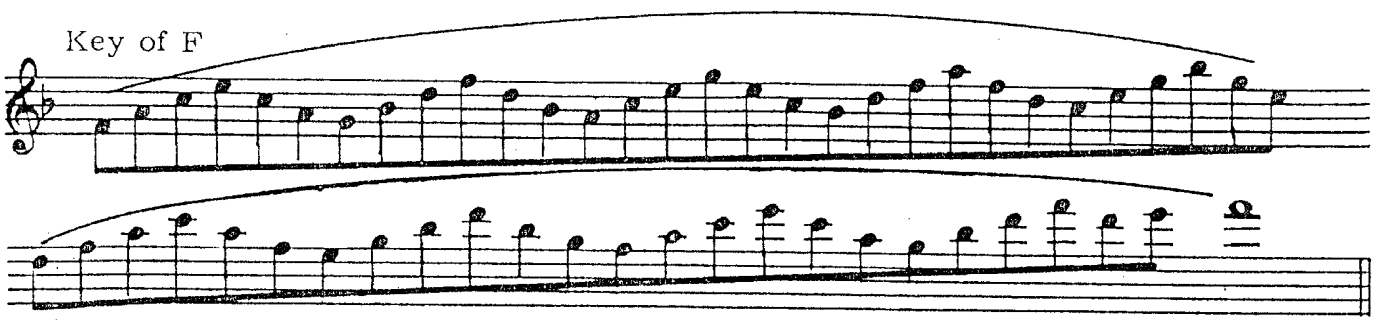
Section IV

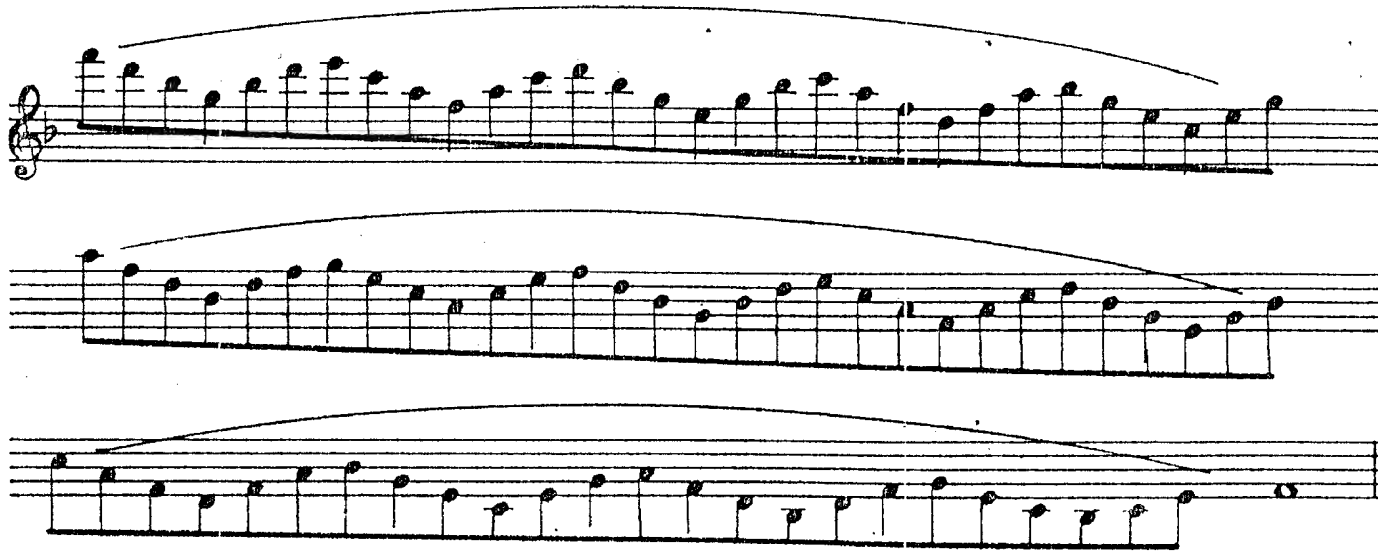
TETRADS - TONAL VARIATIONS

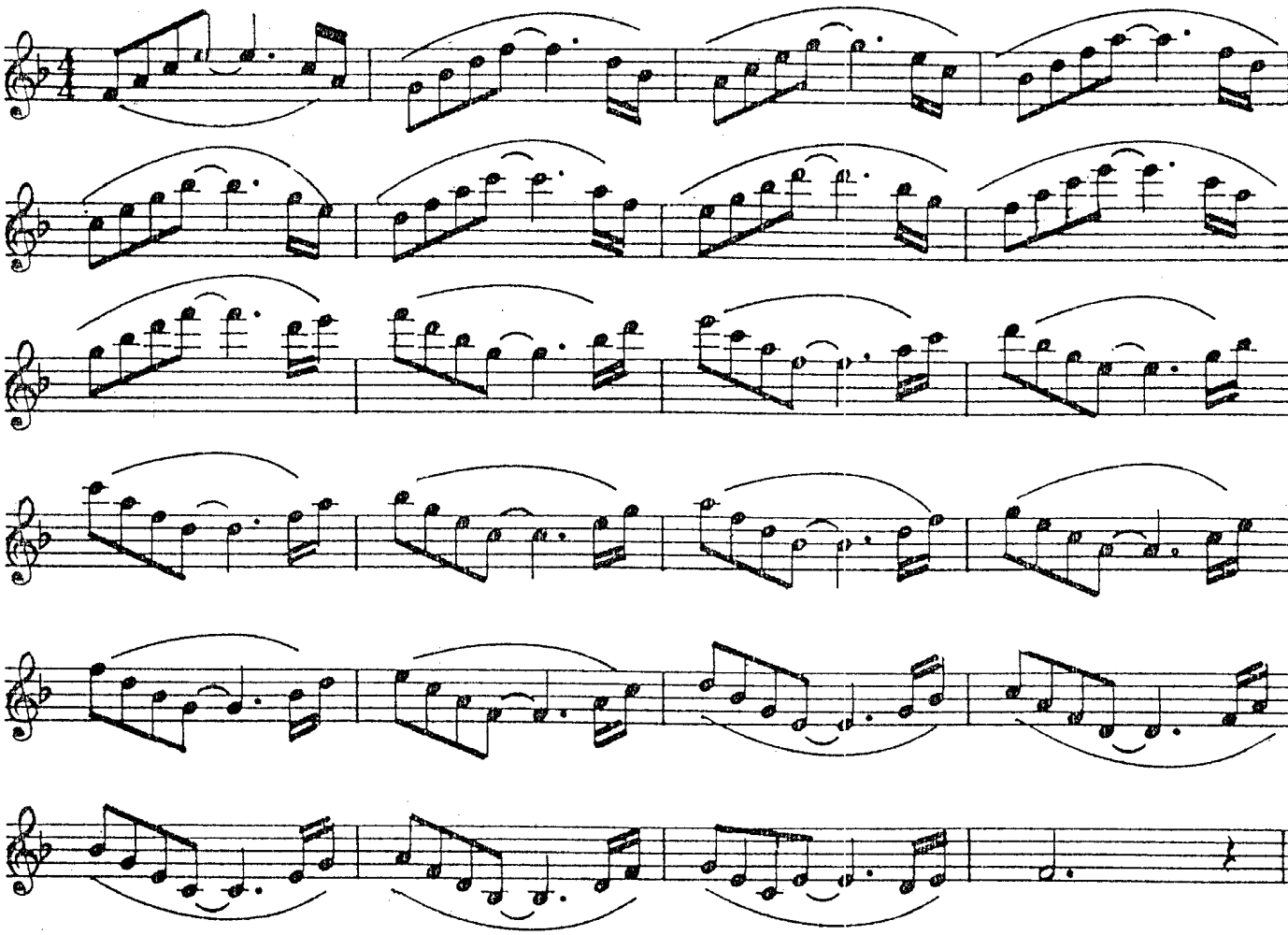
121 Key of C



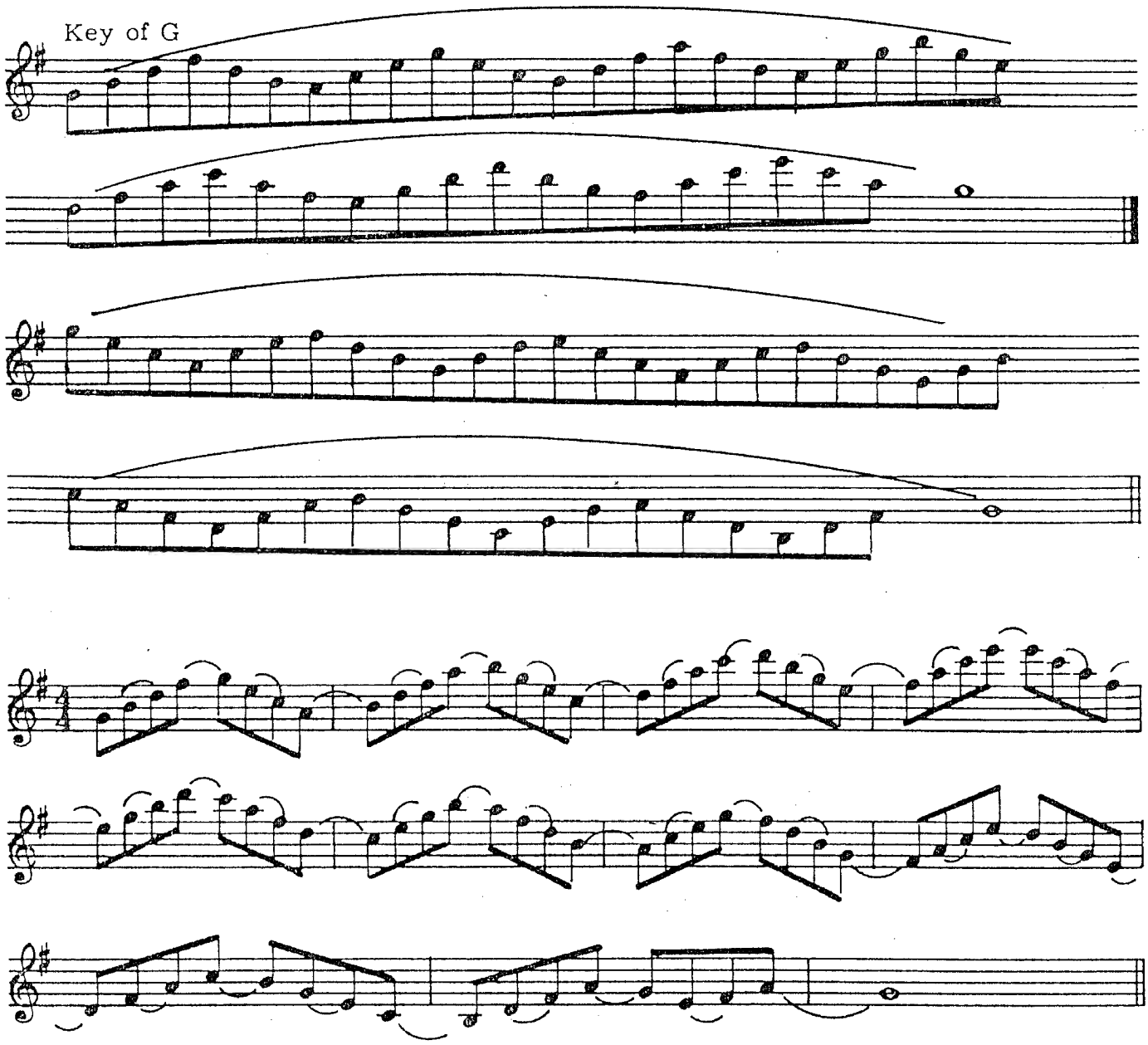
122 Key of F



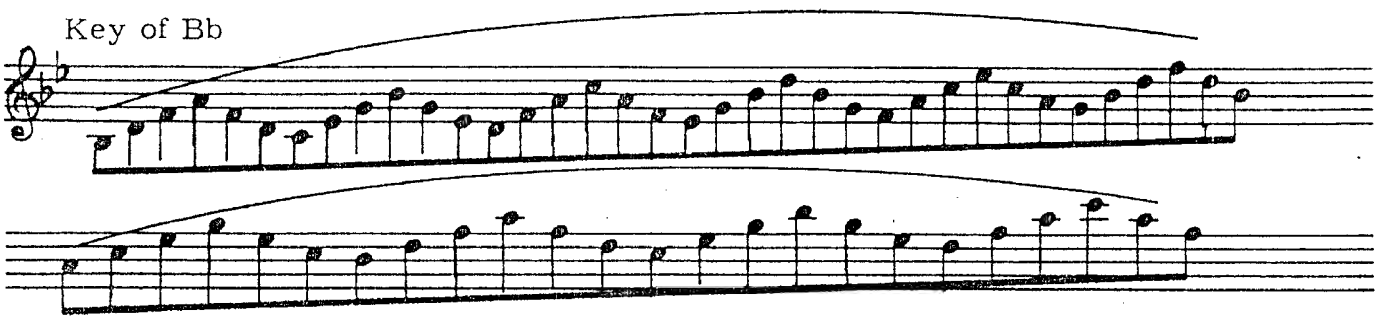


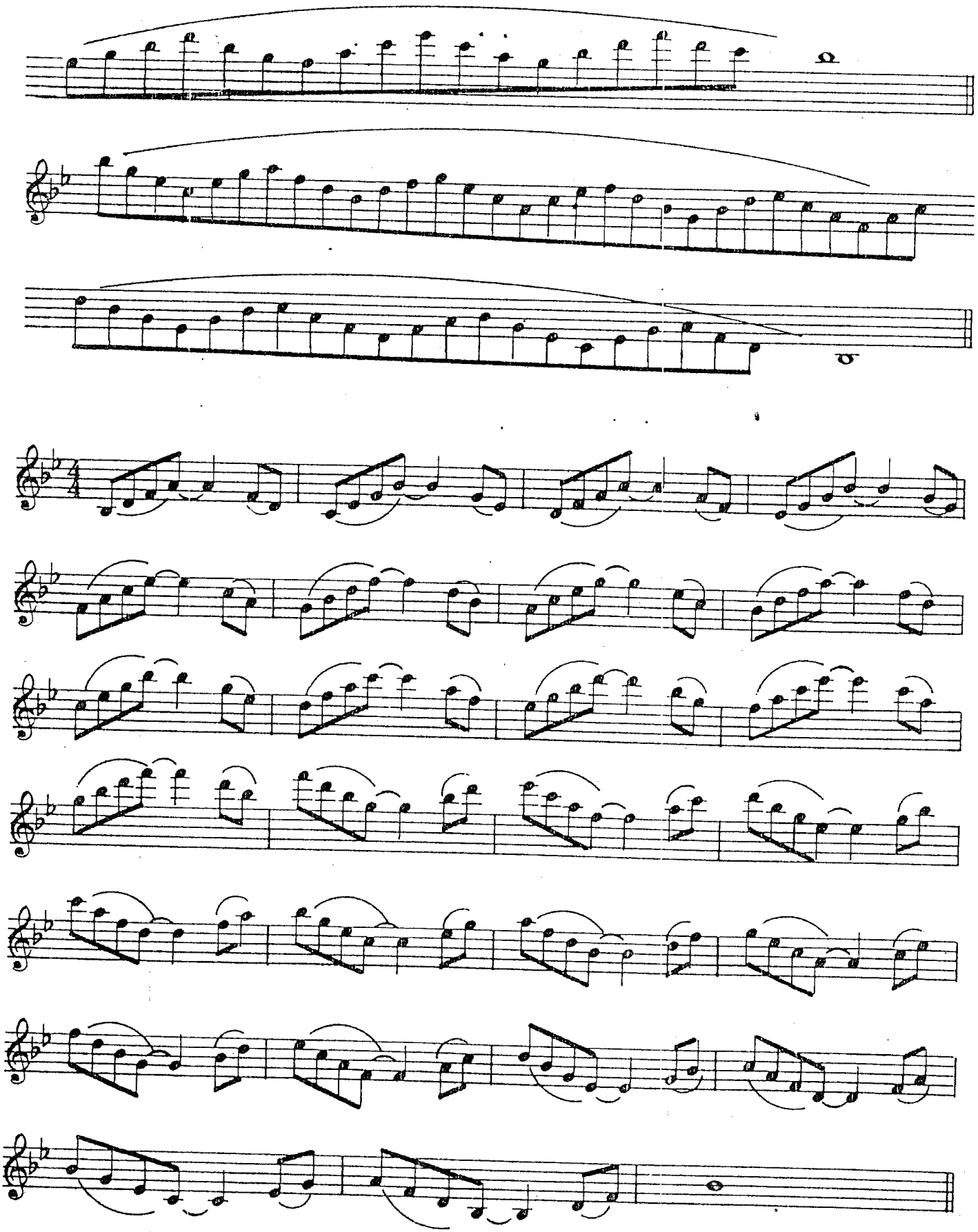


123 Key of G

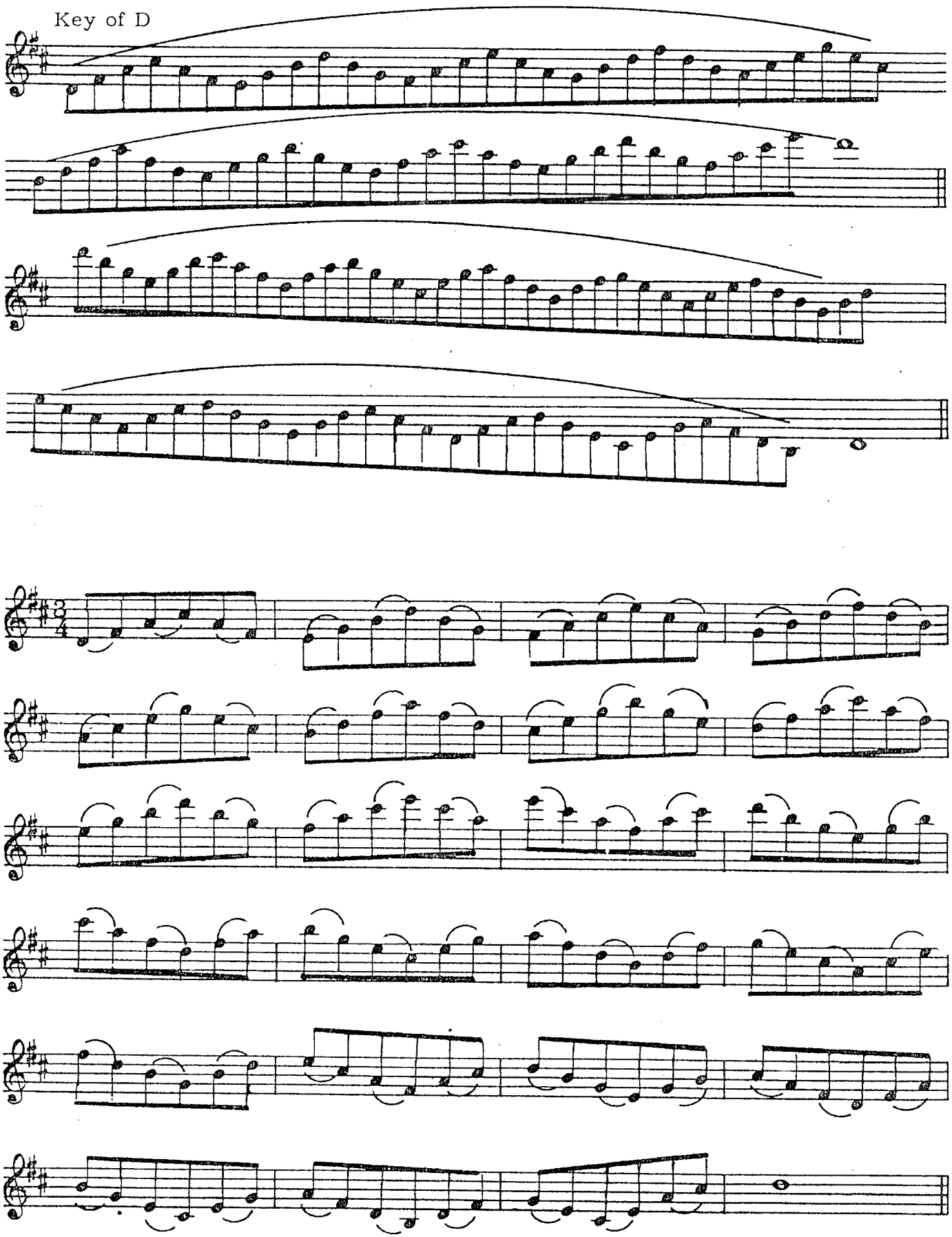


124 Key of Bb

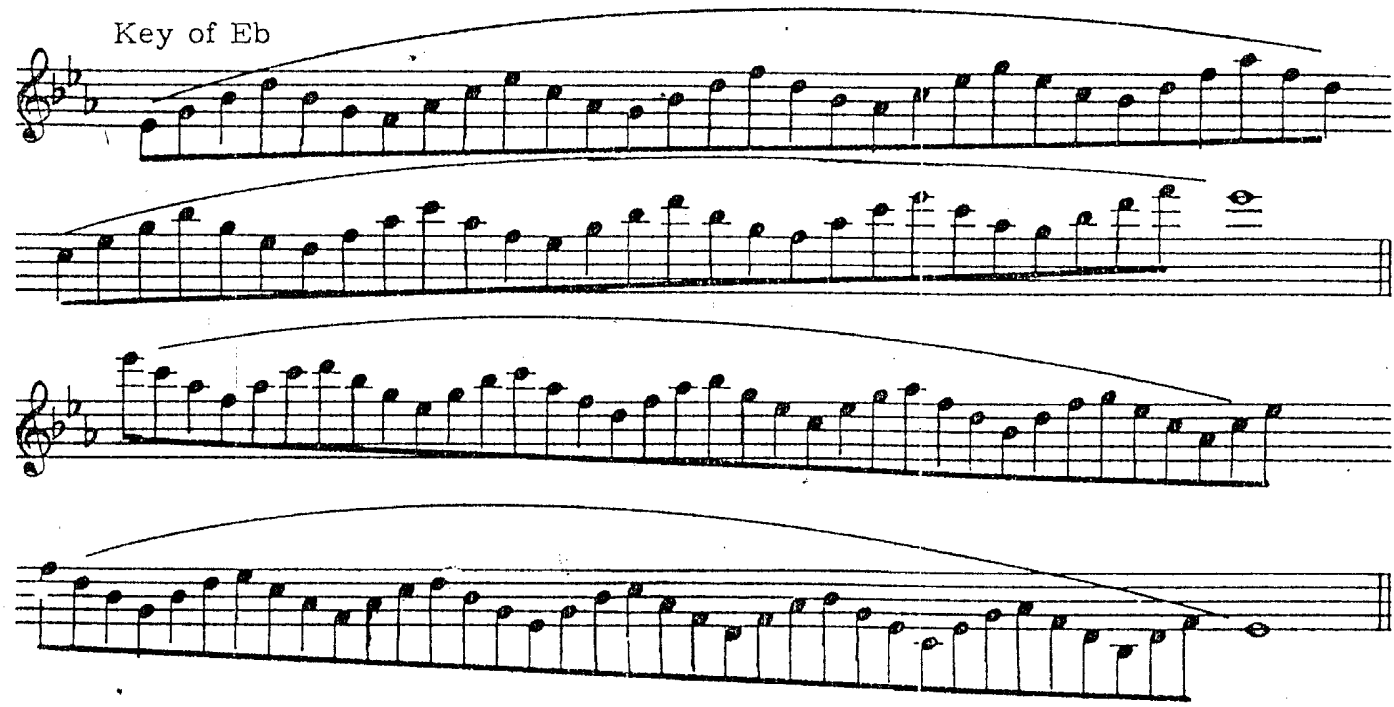


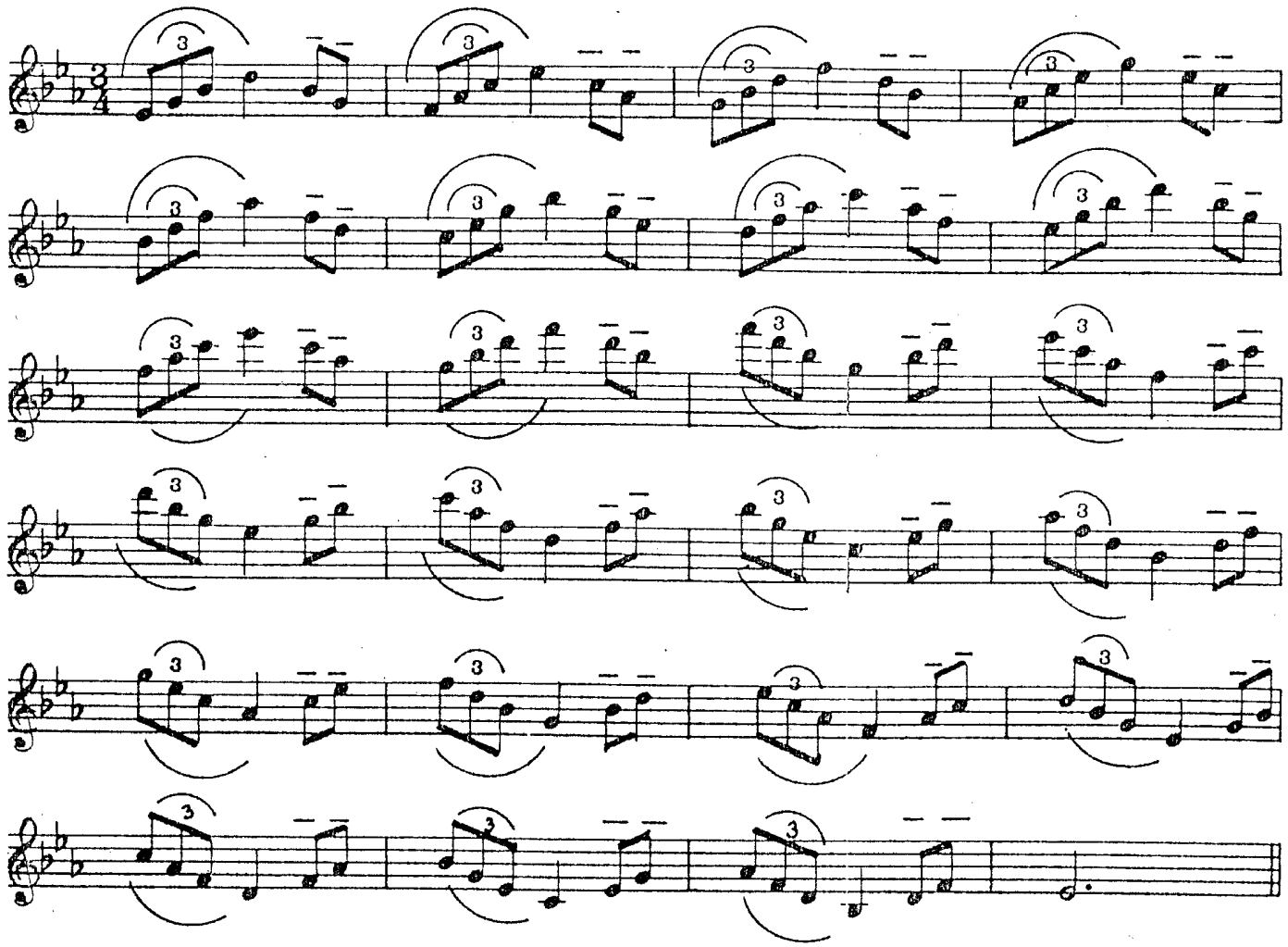


125 Key of D

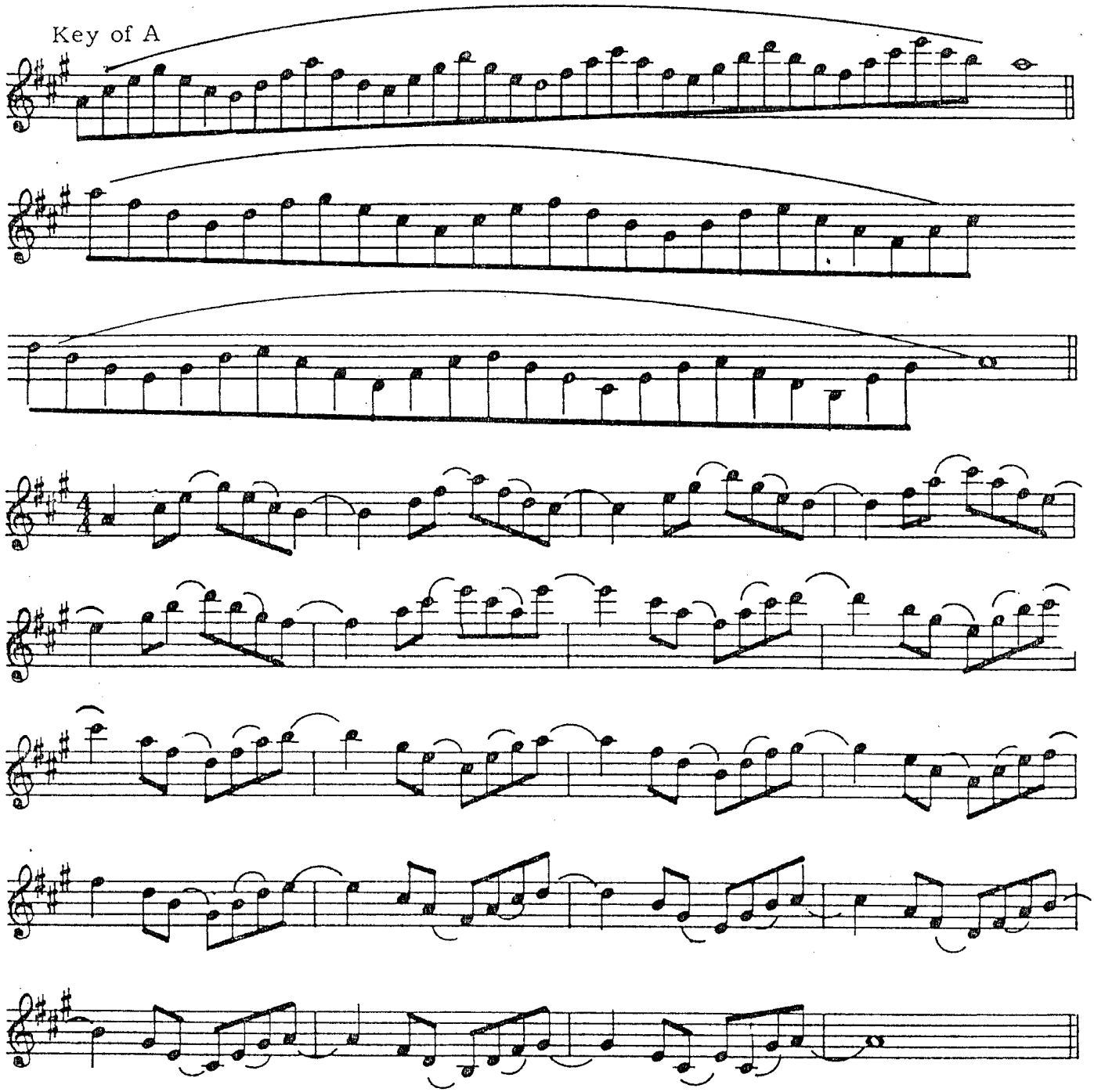


126 Key of Eb

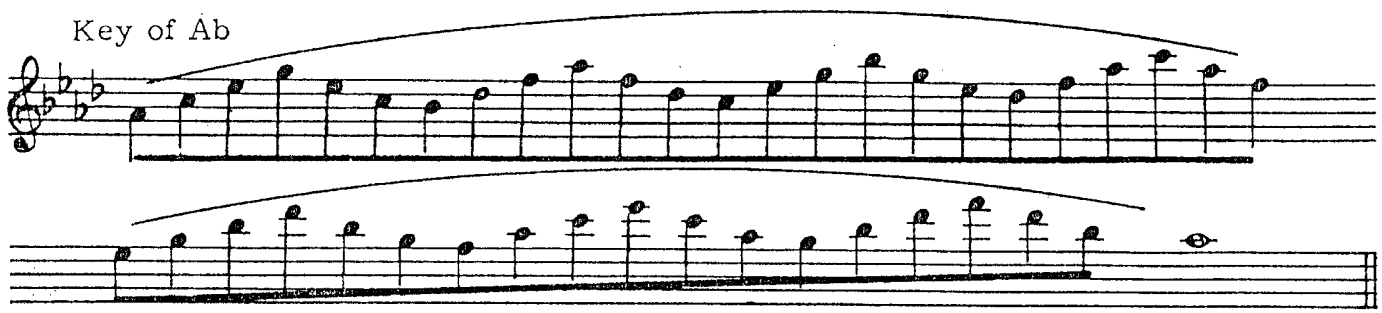


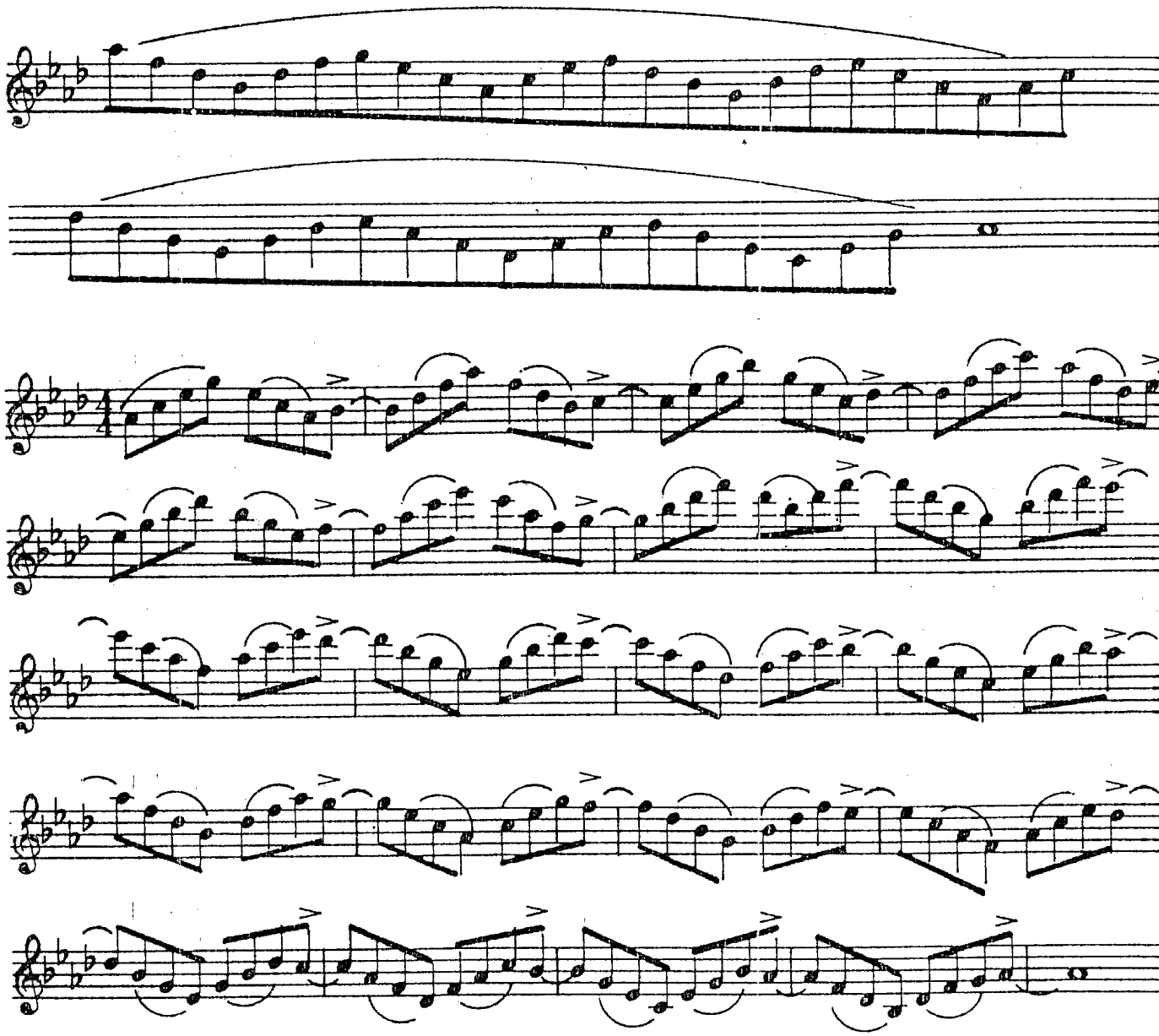


127 Key of A

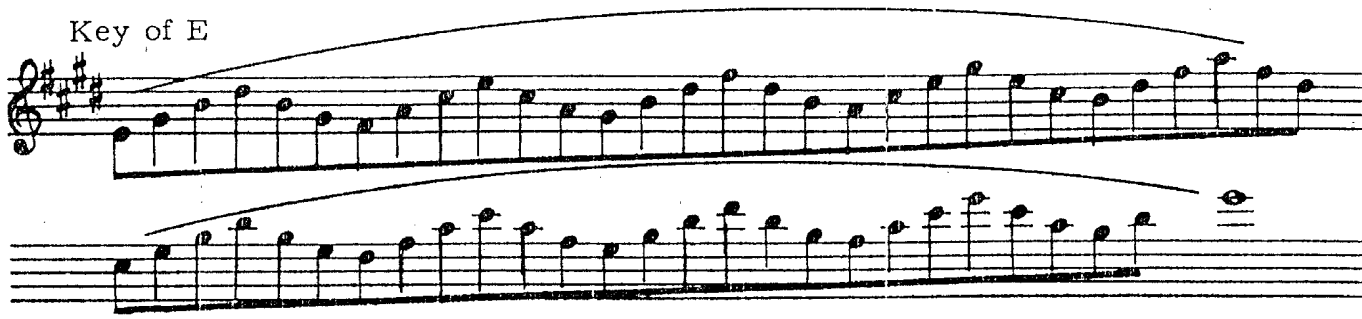


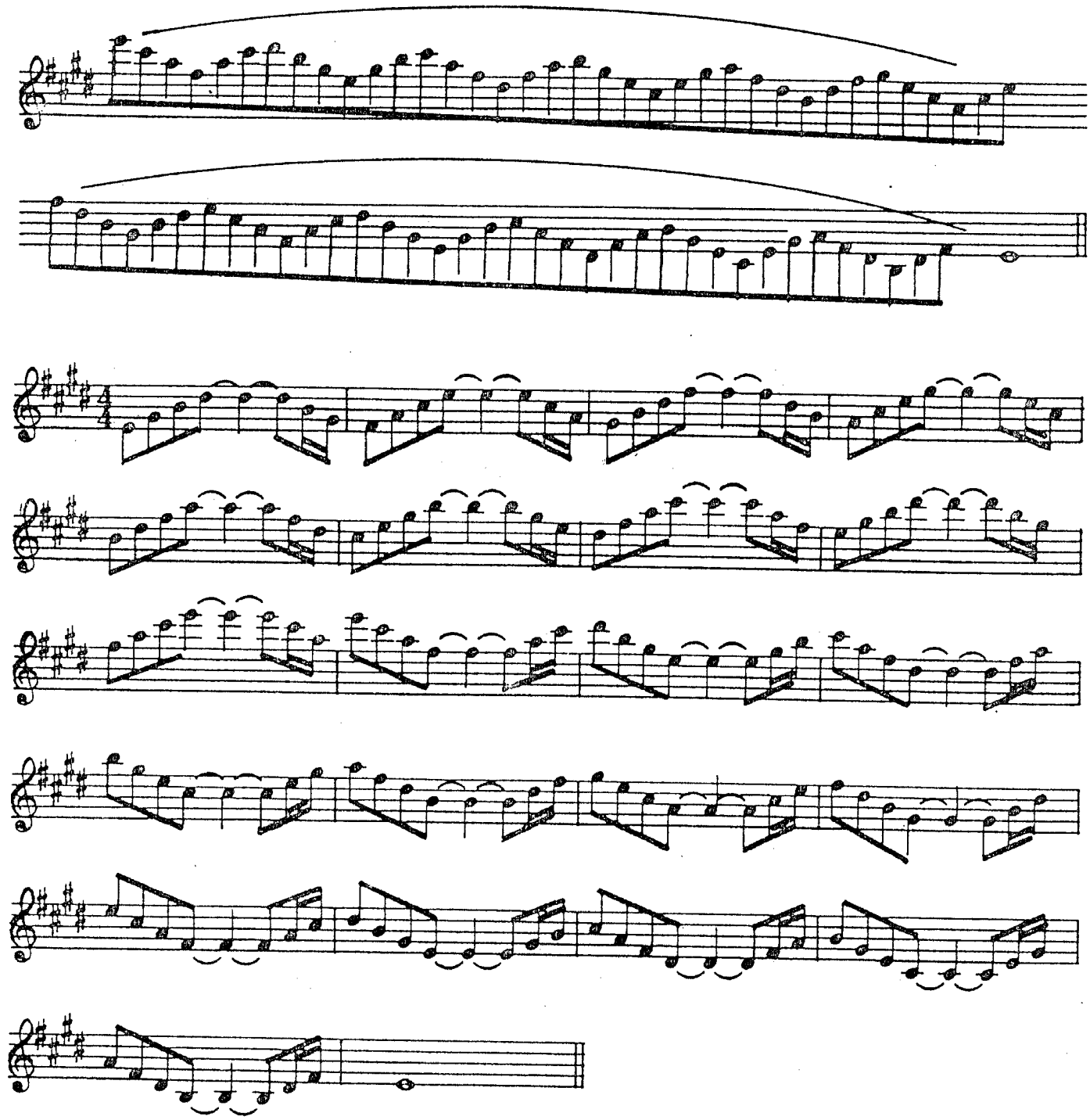
128 Key of Ab



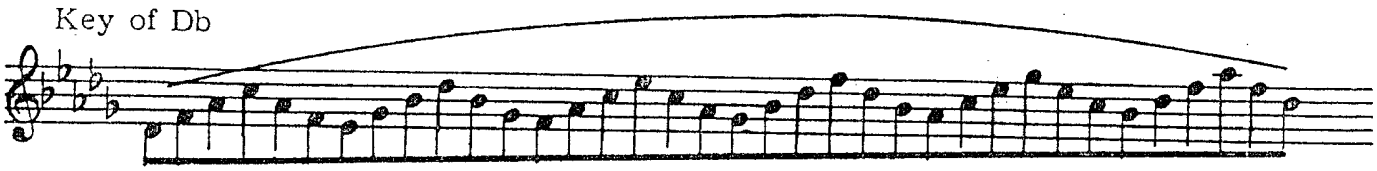


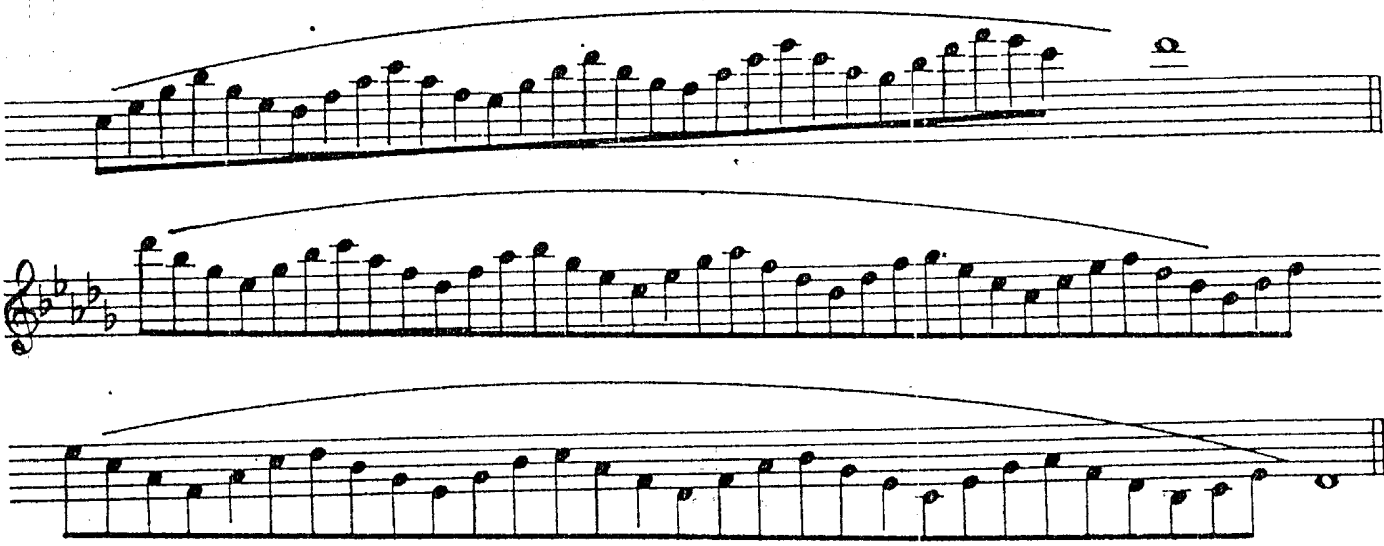
129 Key of E

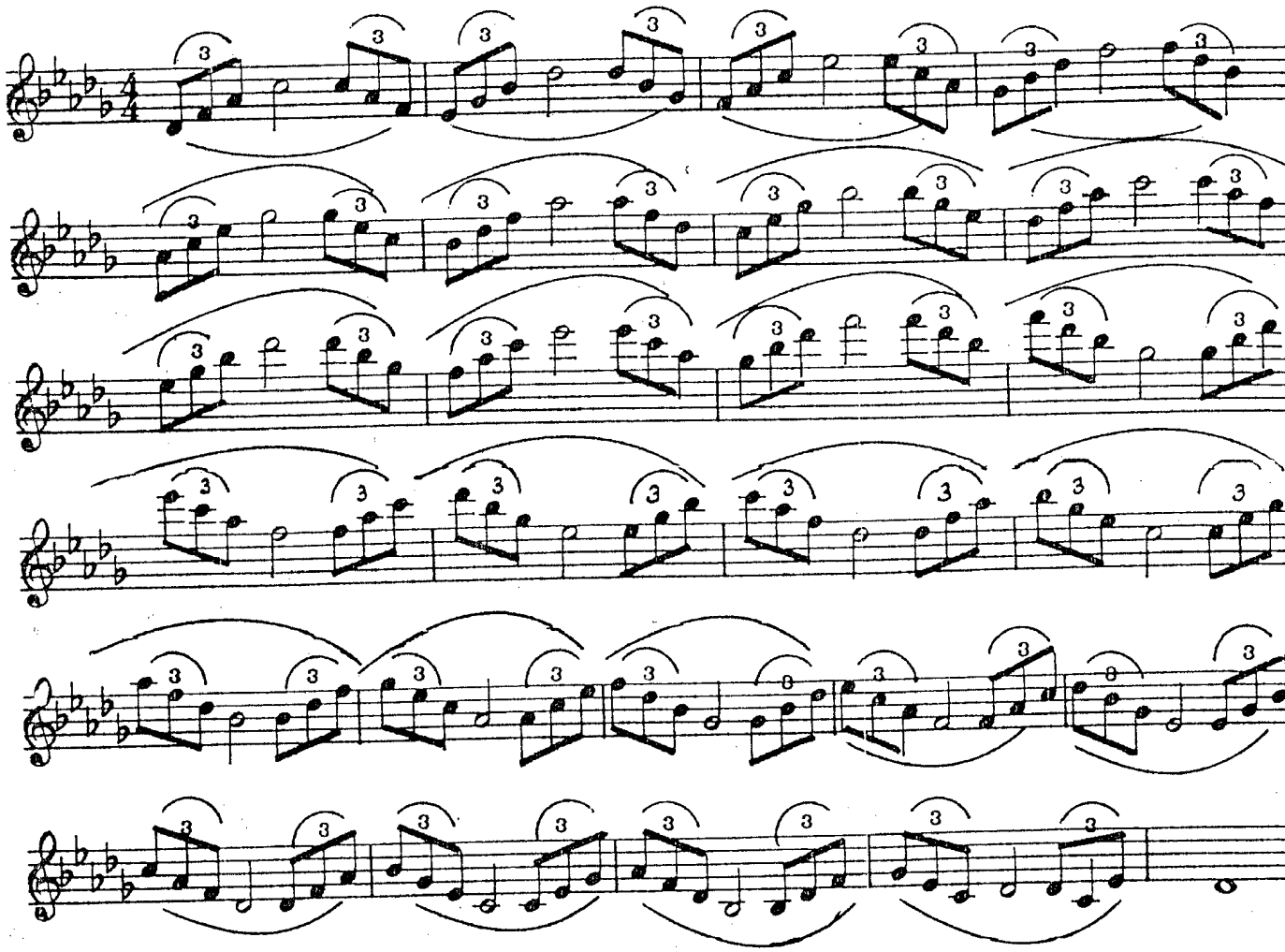




30 Key of Db

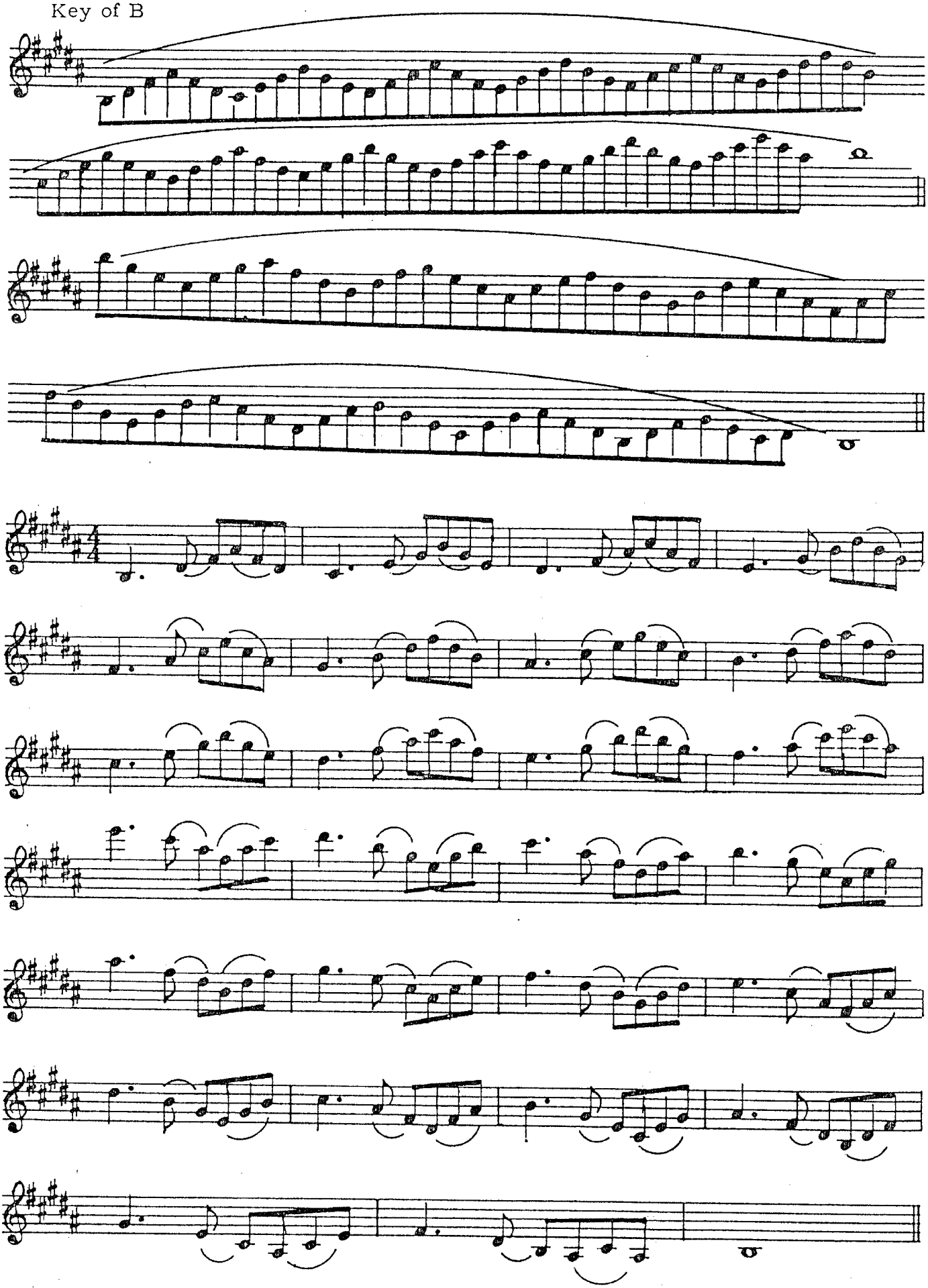






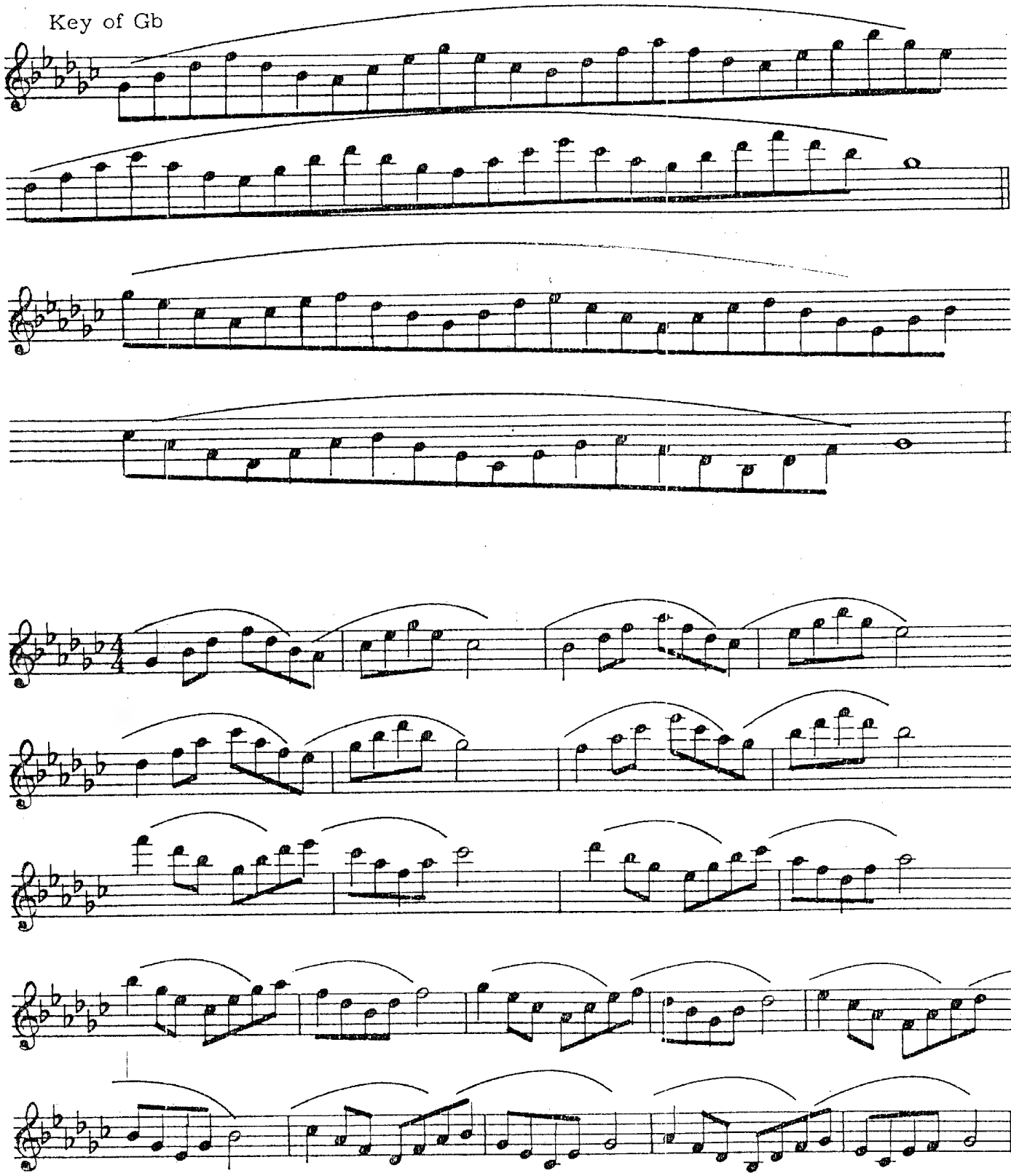
131

Key of B

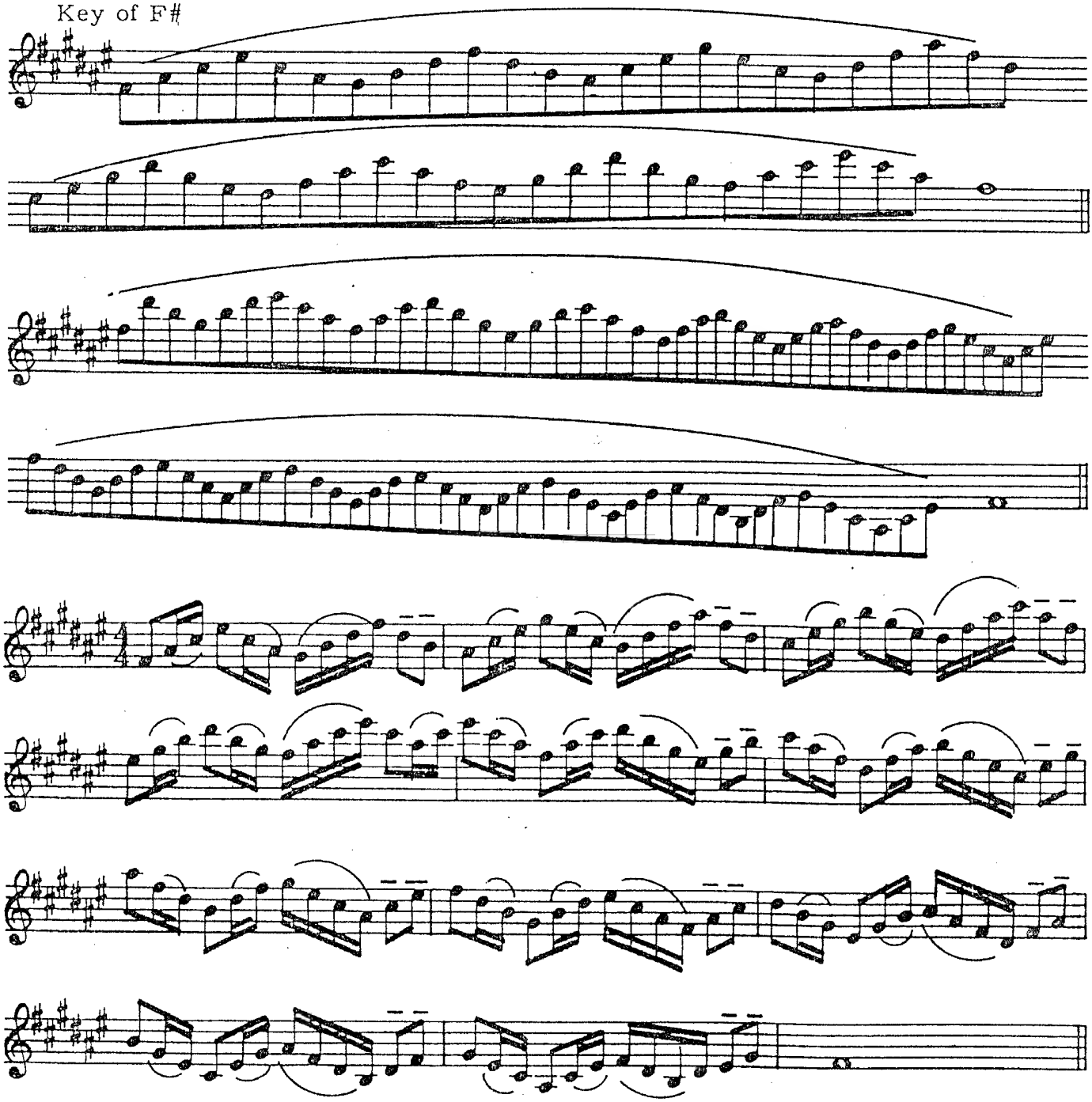


132

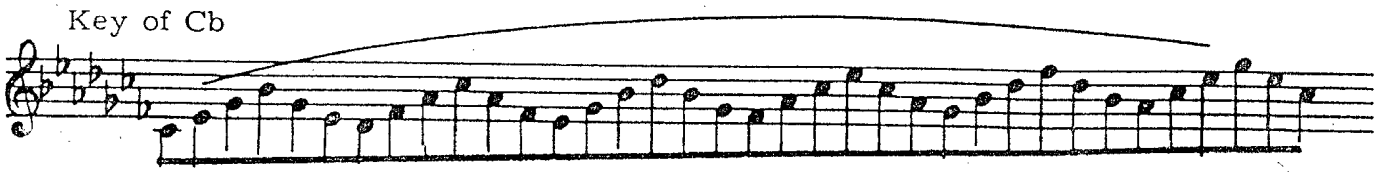
Key of Gb

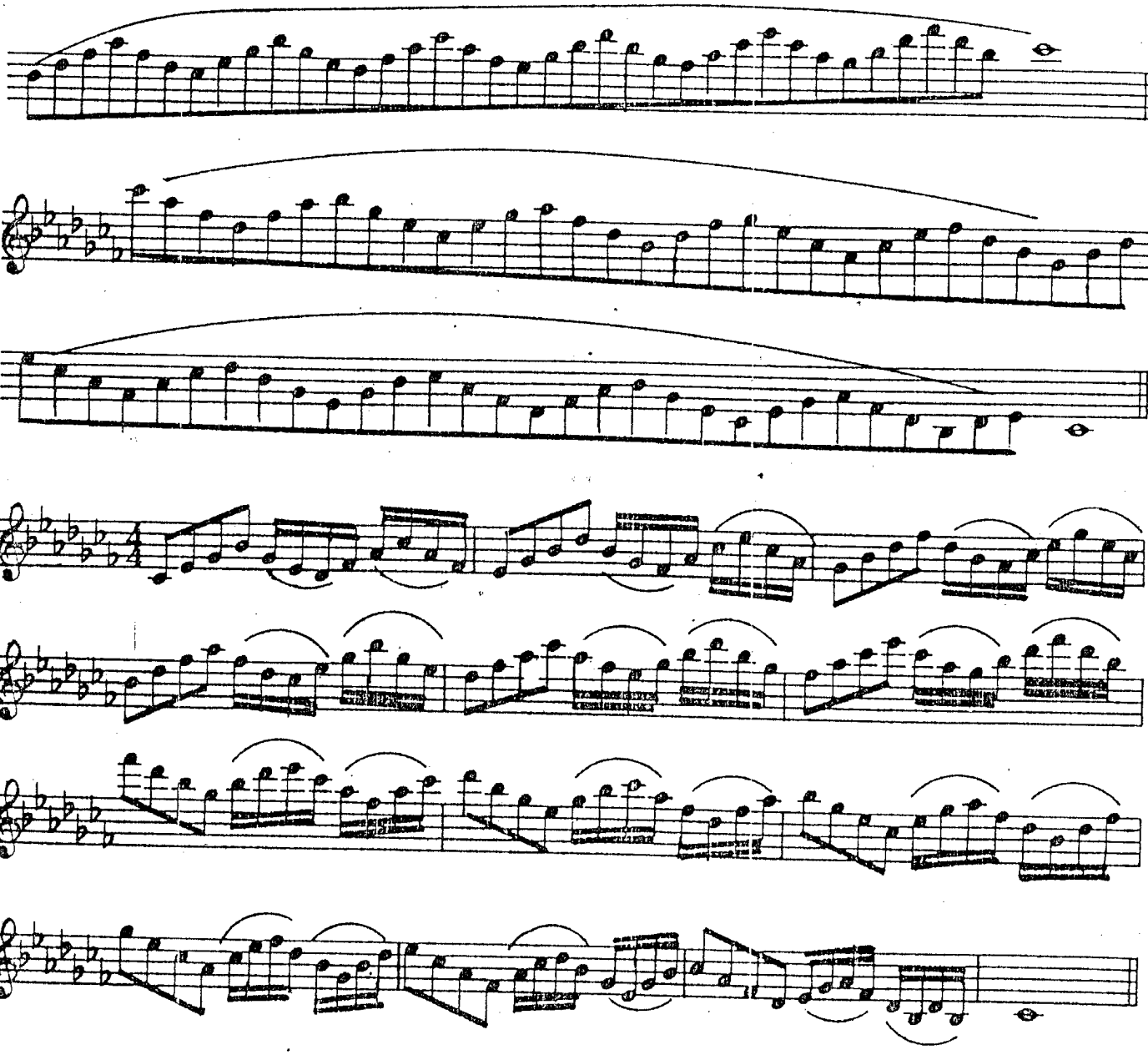


133 Key of F#



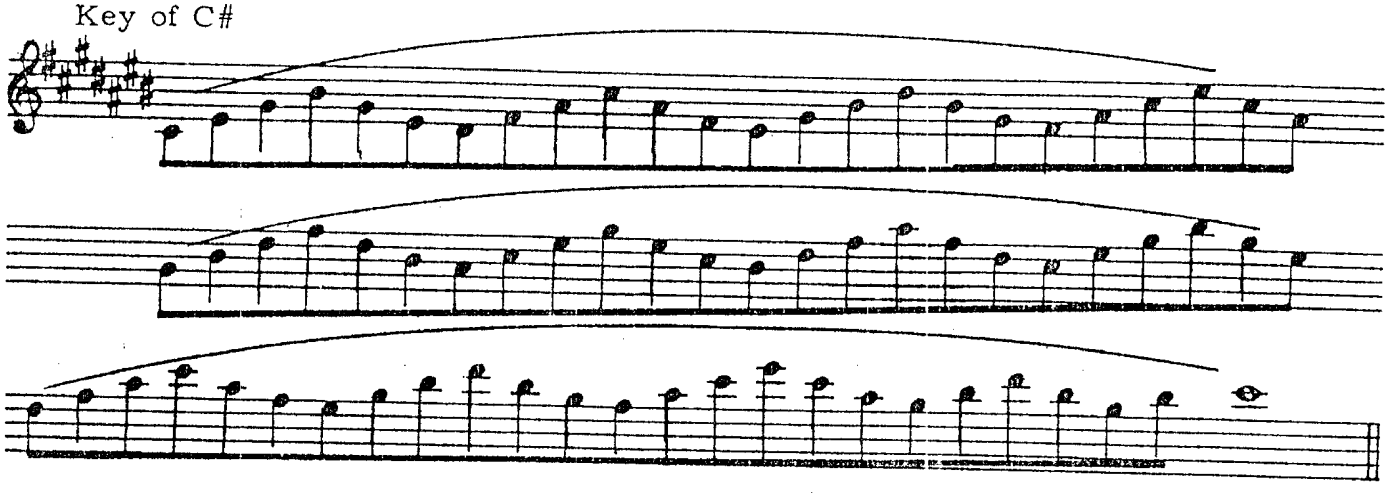
134 Key of Cb

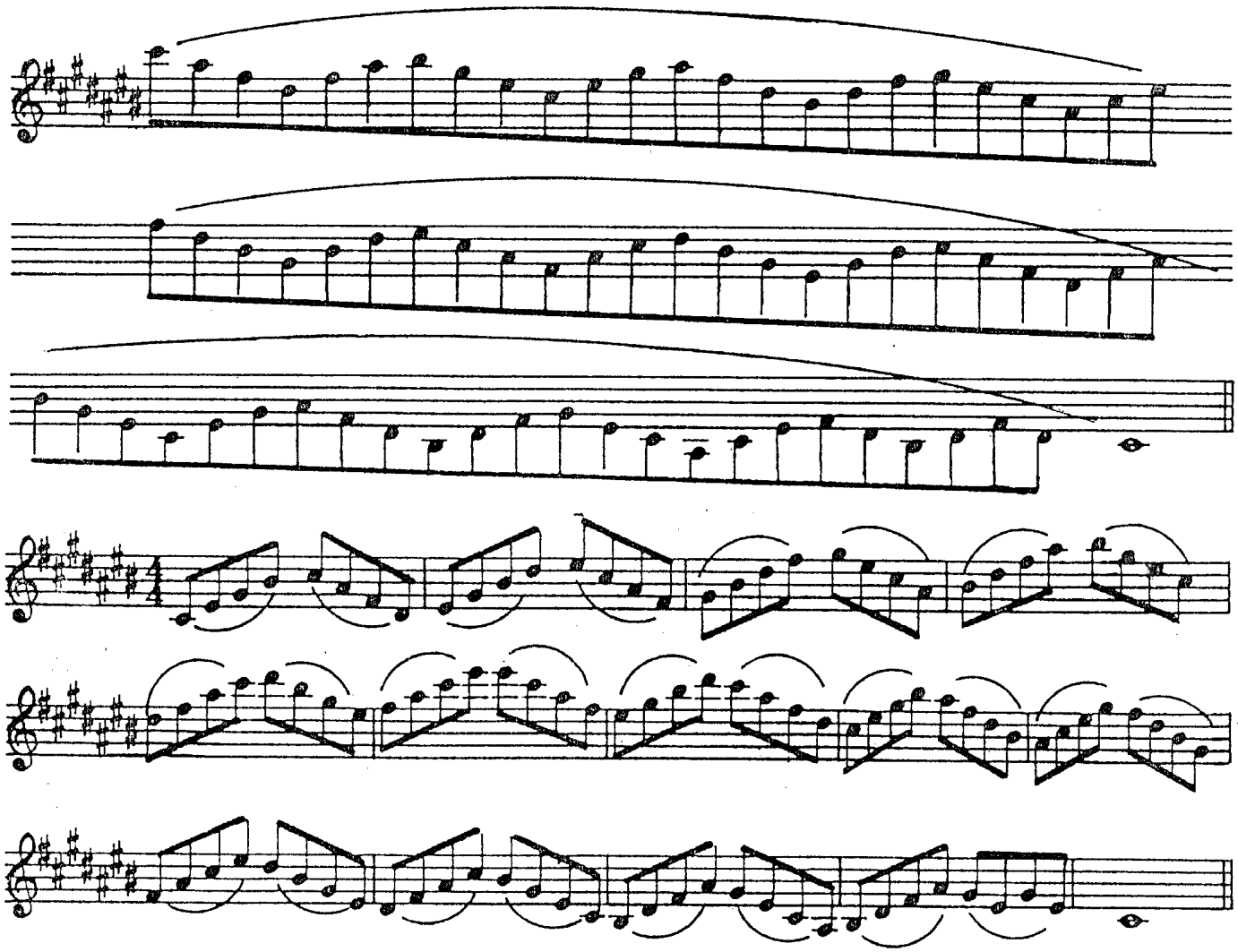




135

Key of C#

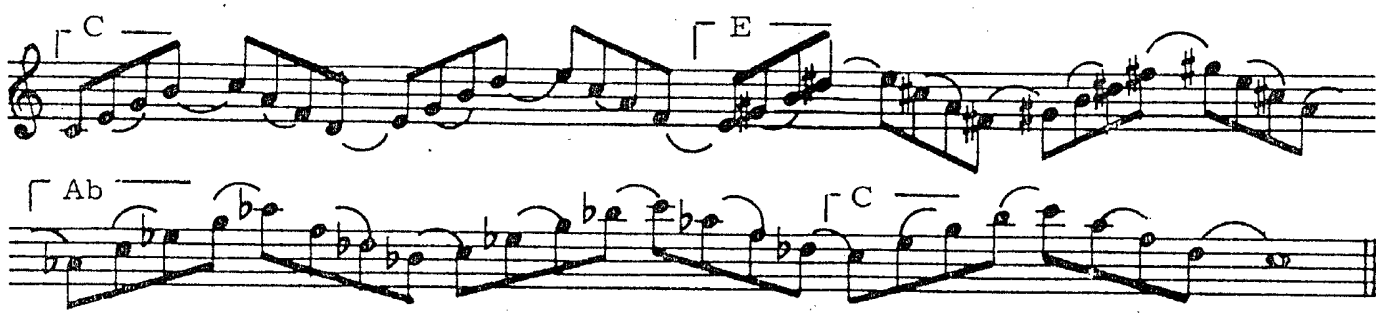


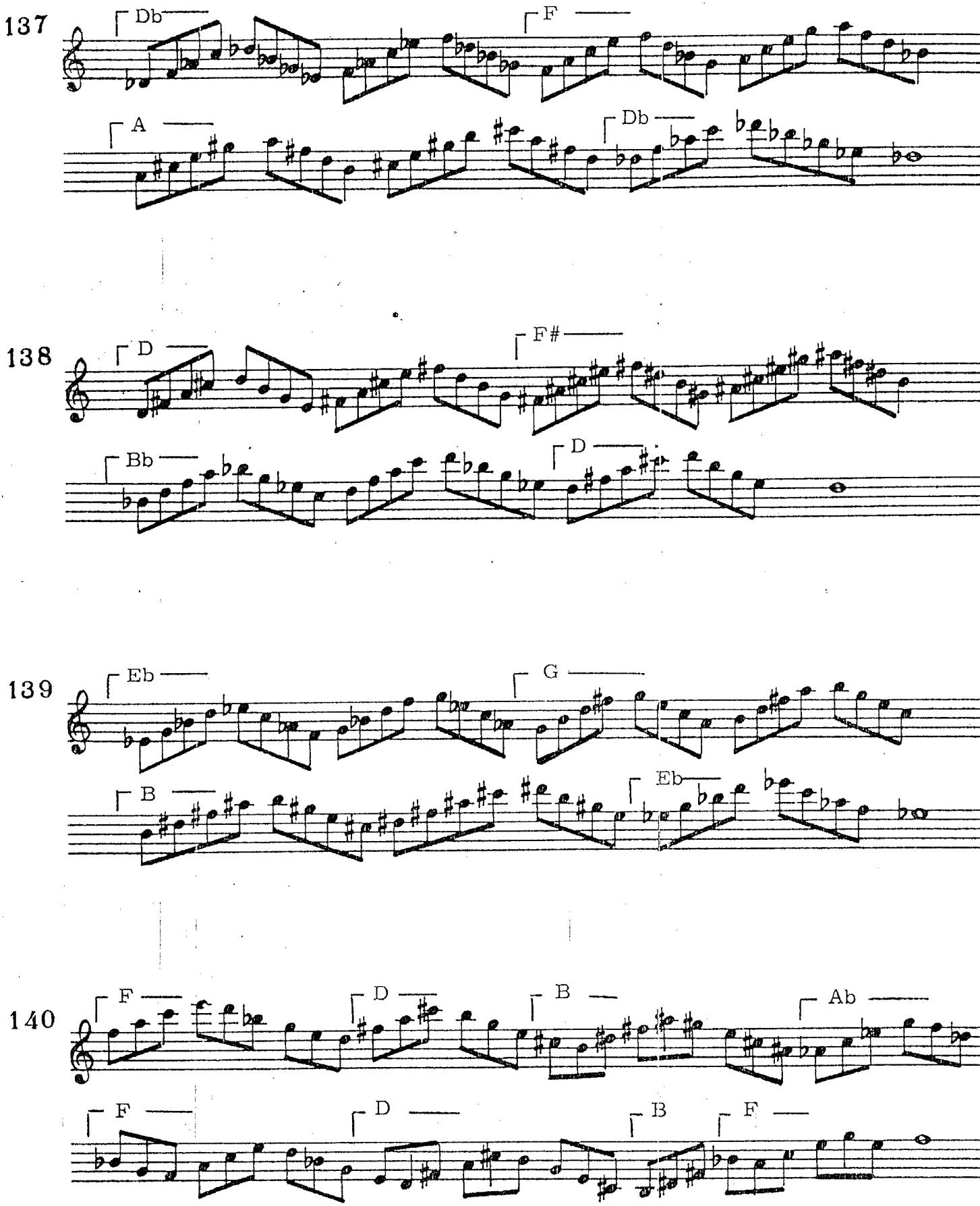


TETRADS - POLYTONAL VARIATIONS

(see author's notes)

136

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138
D
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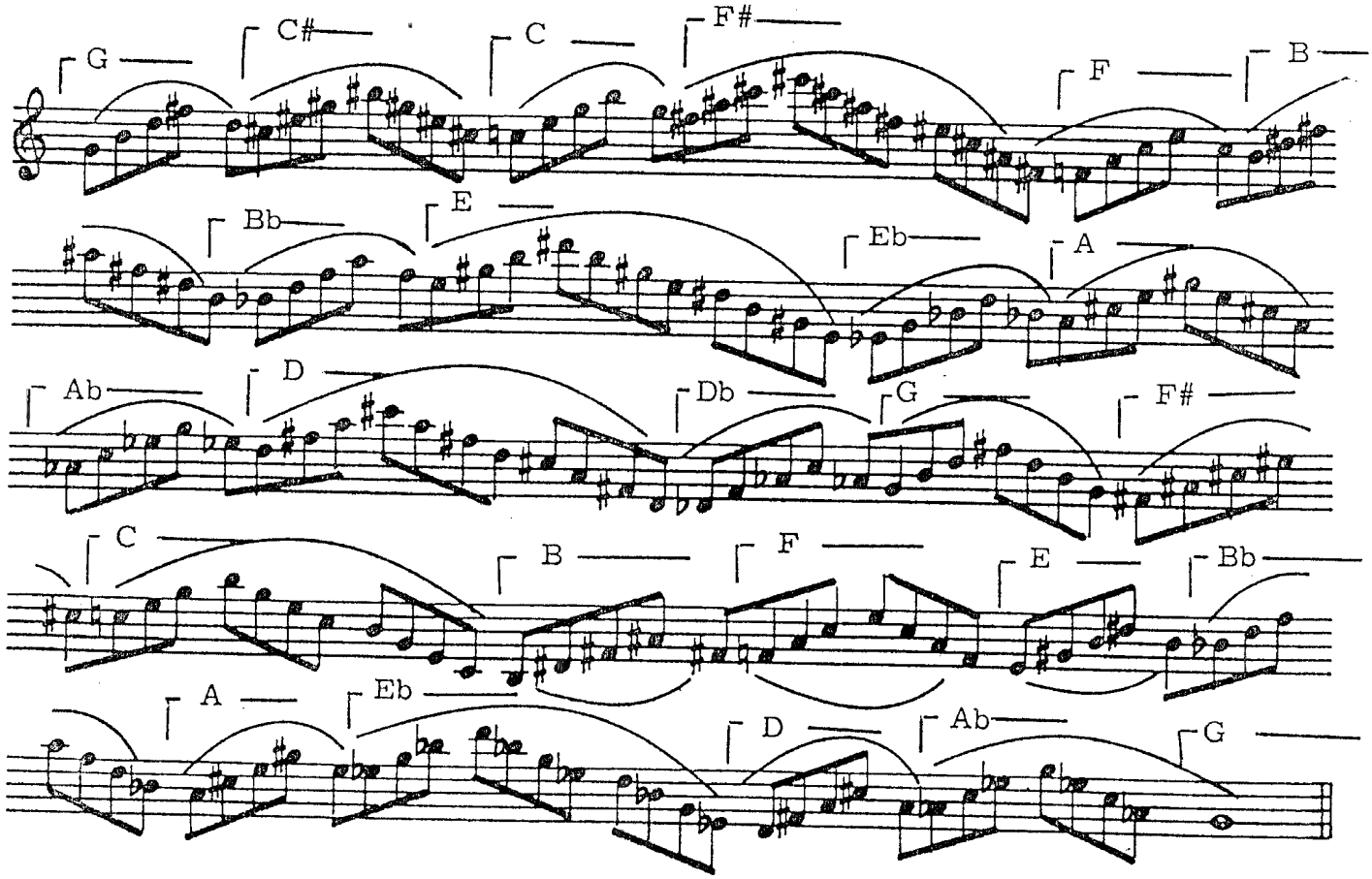
141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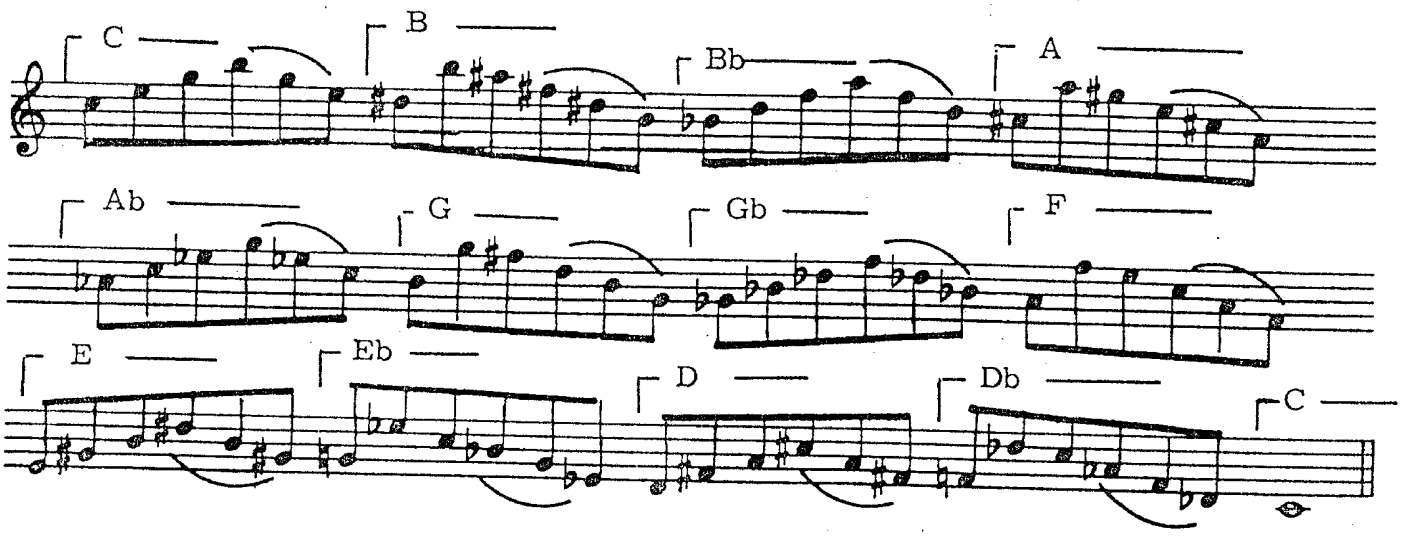
142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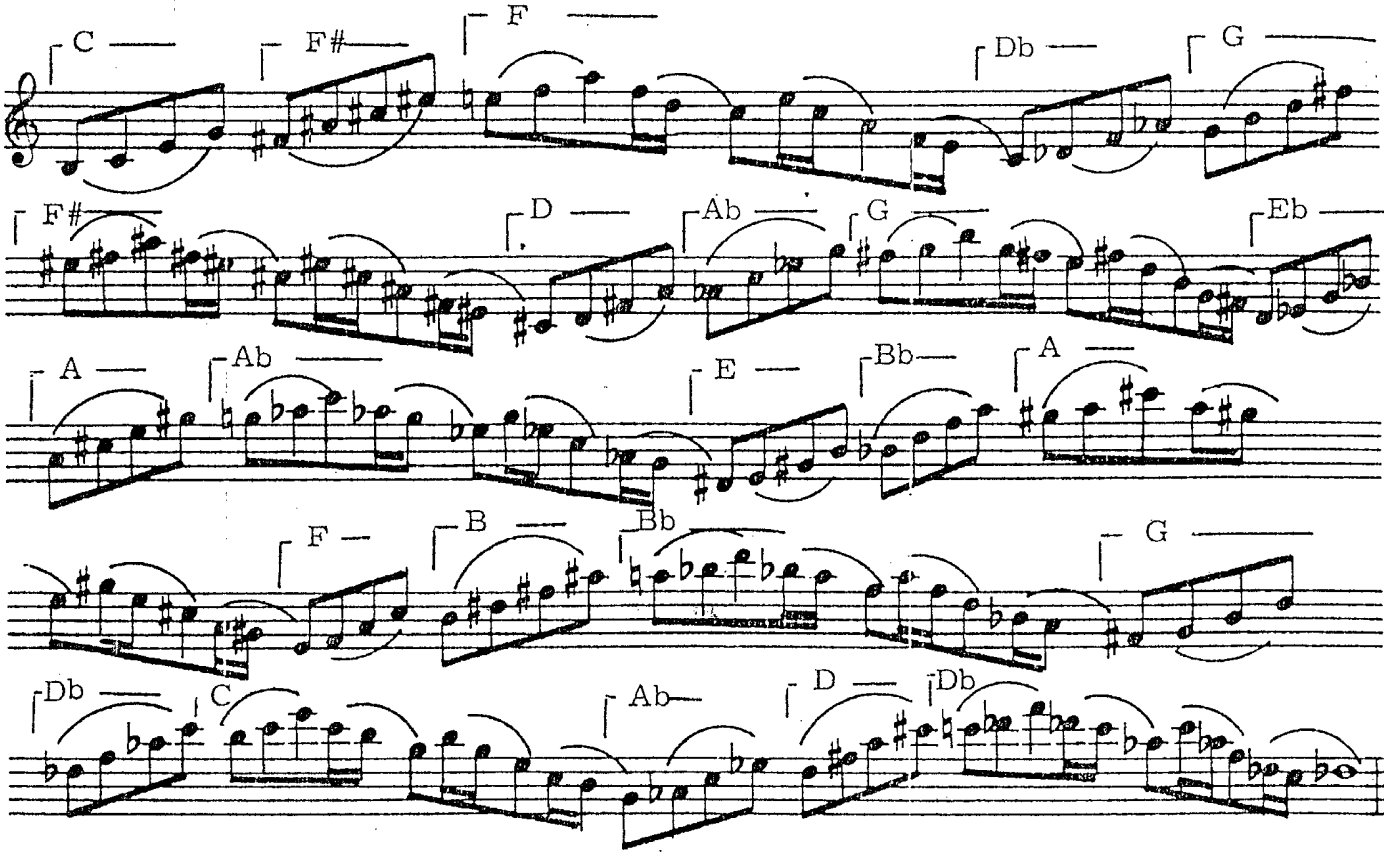
C

143



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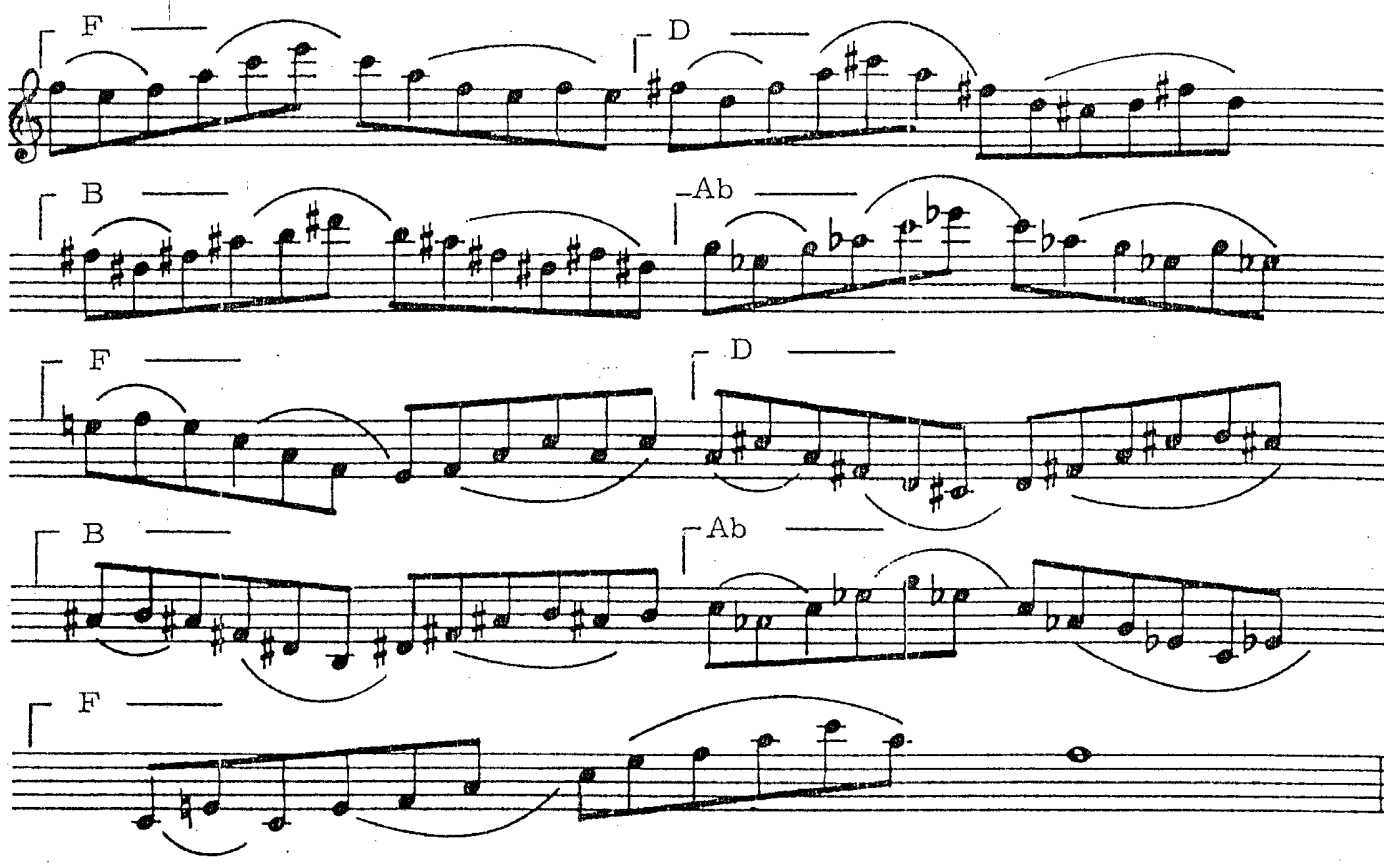
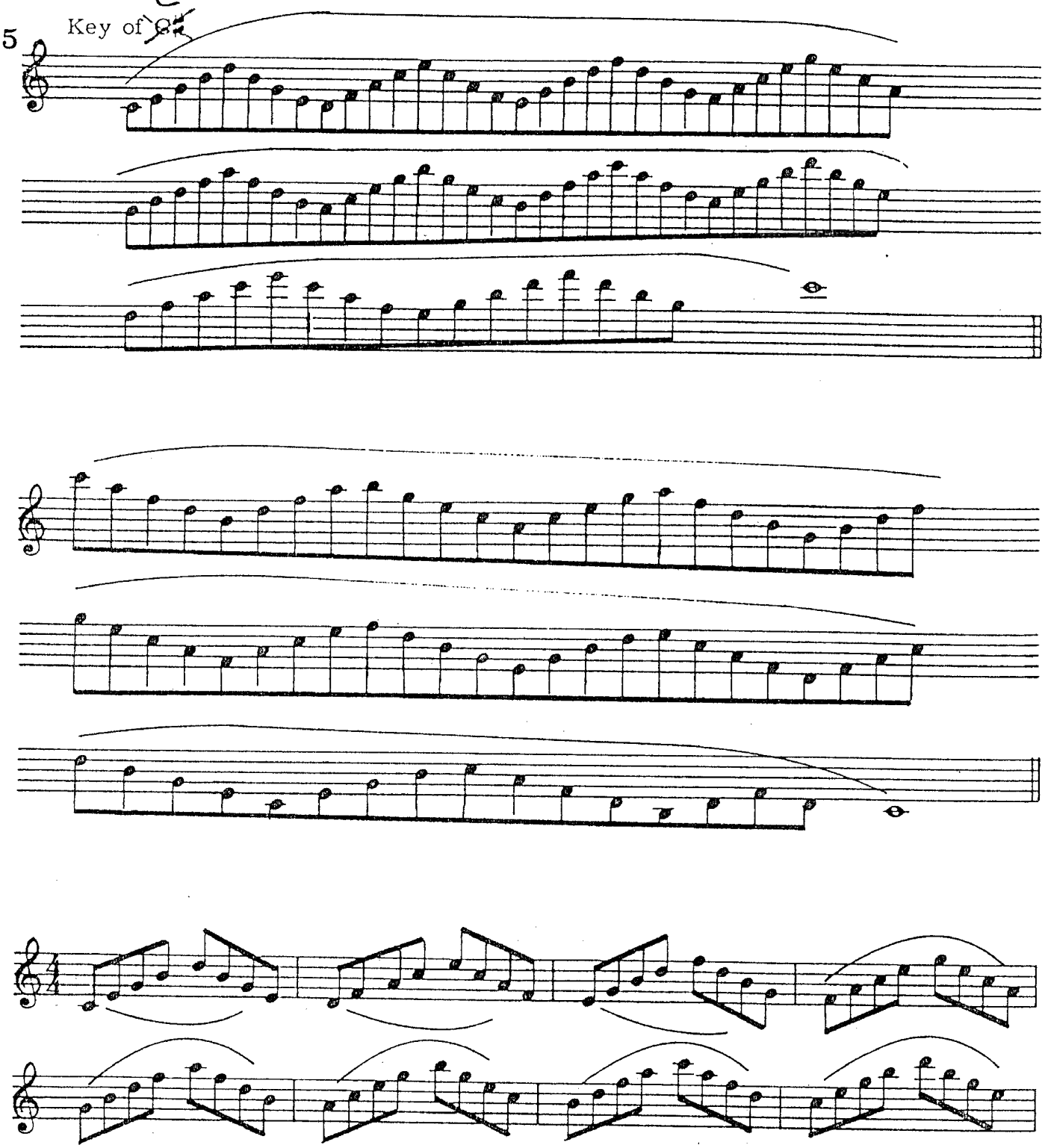
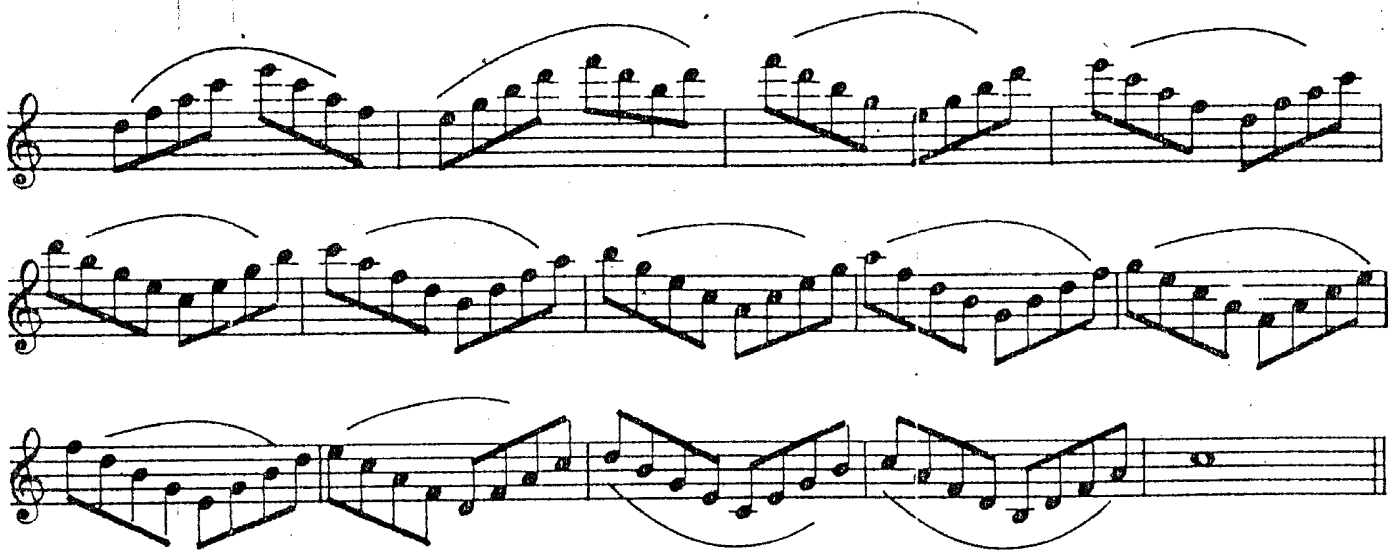


Section V

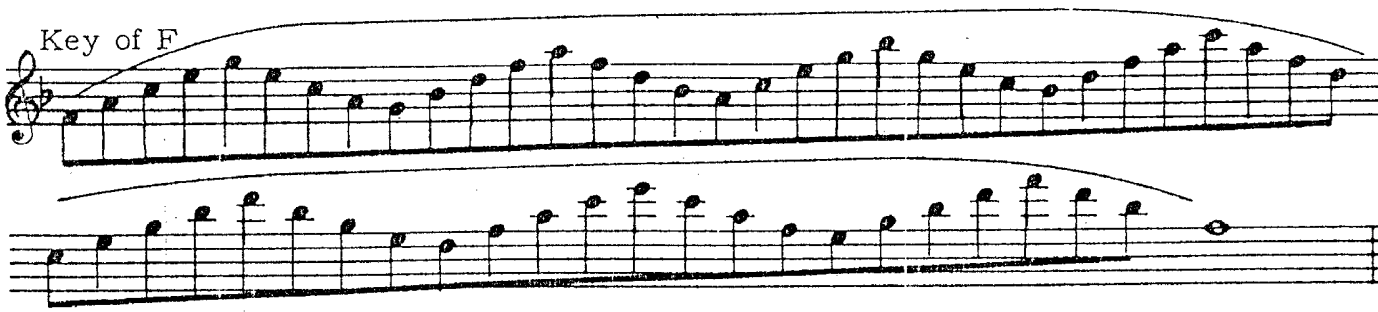
PENTADS - TONAL VARIATIONS

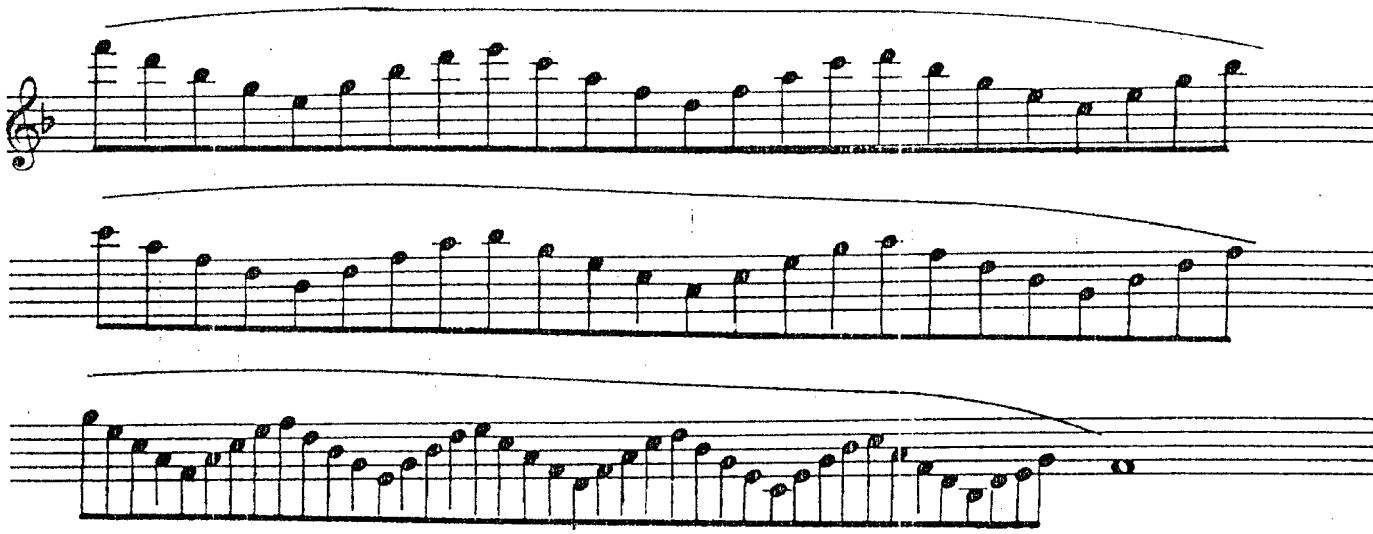
145 Key of ~~G~~ C

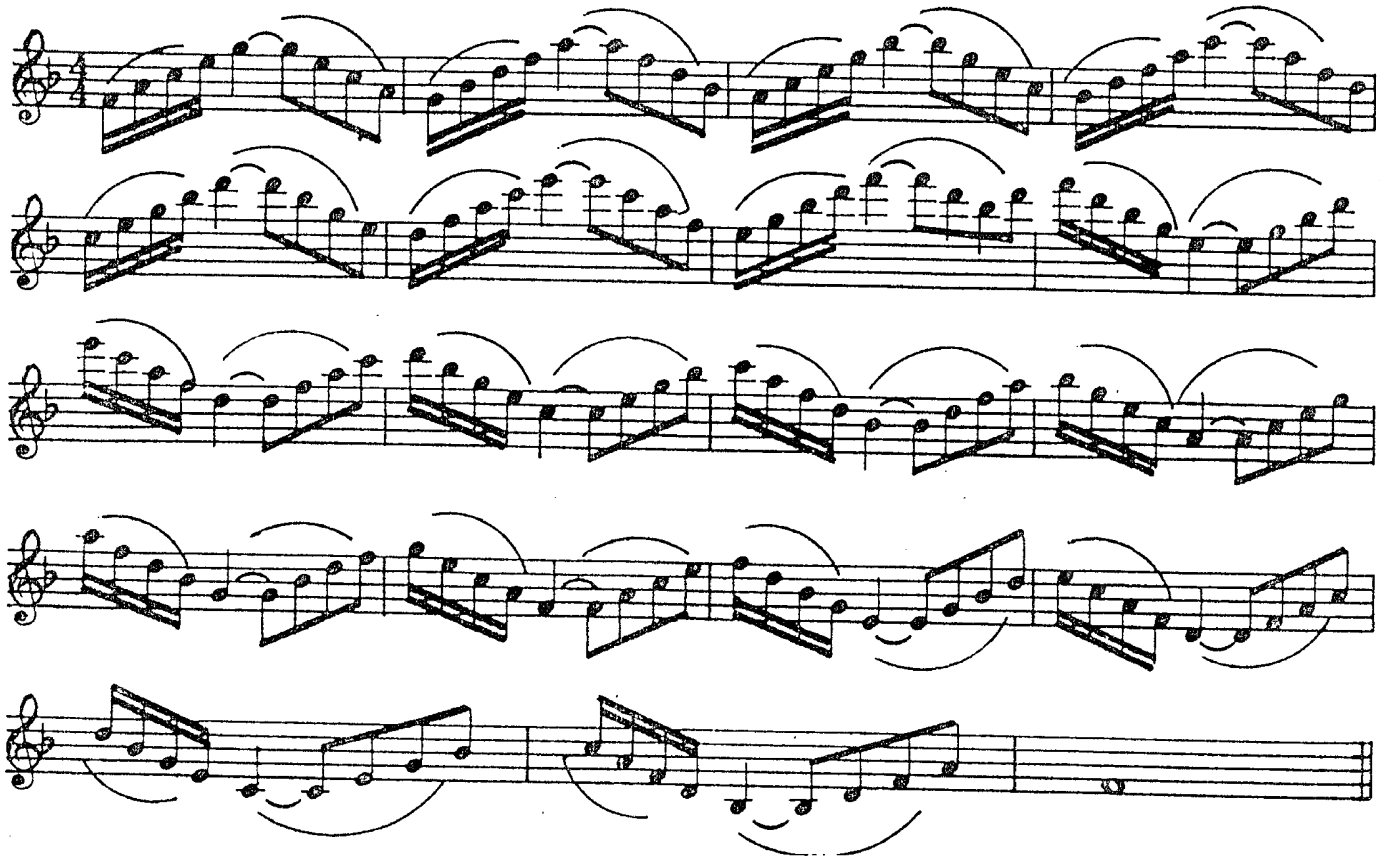




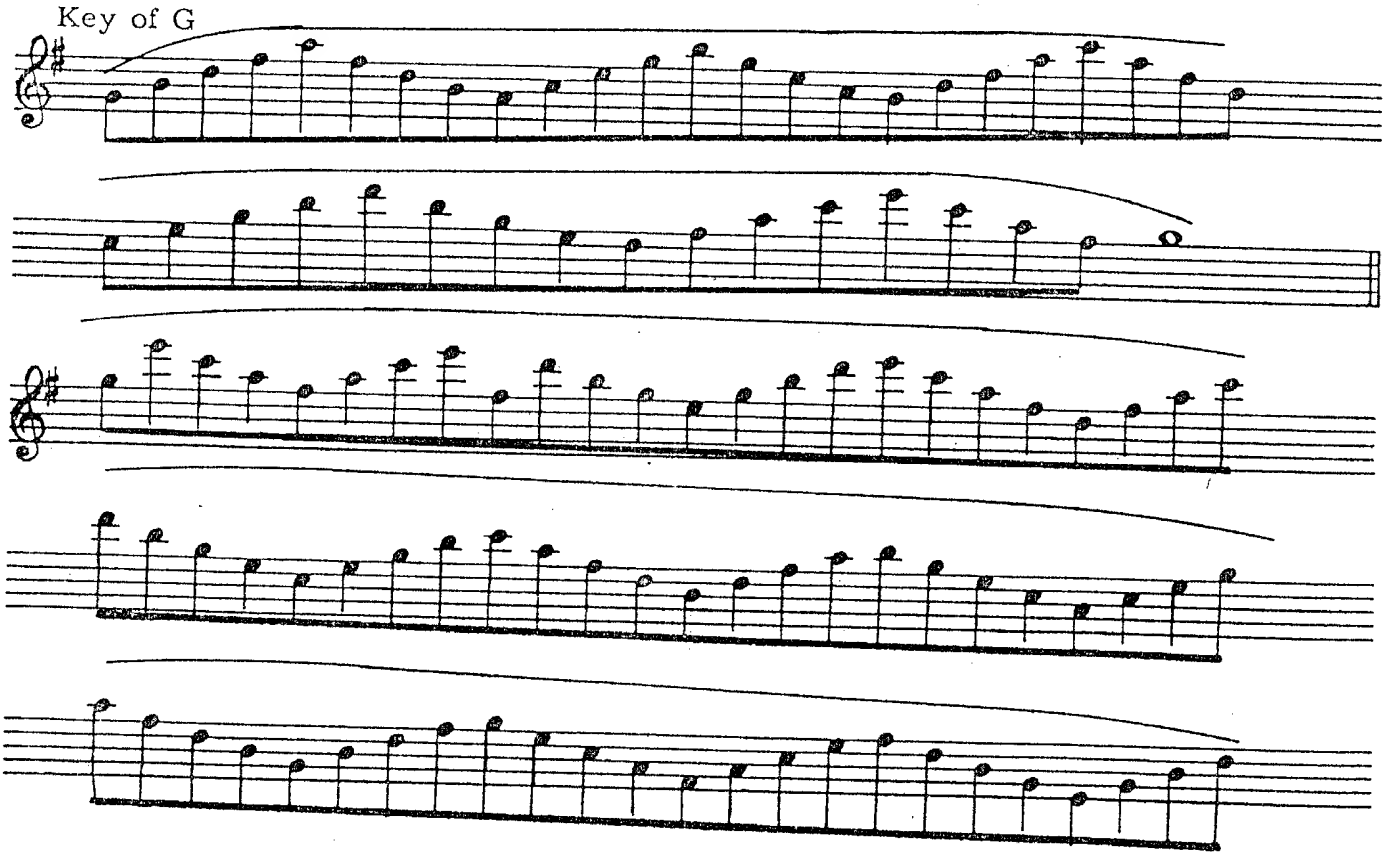
146 Key of F

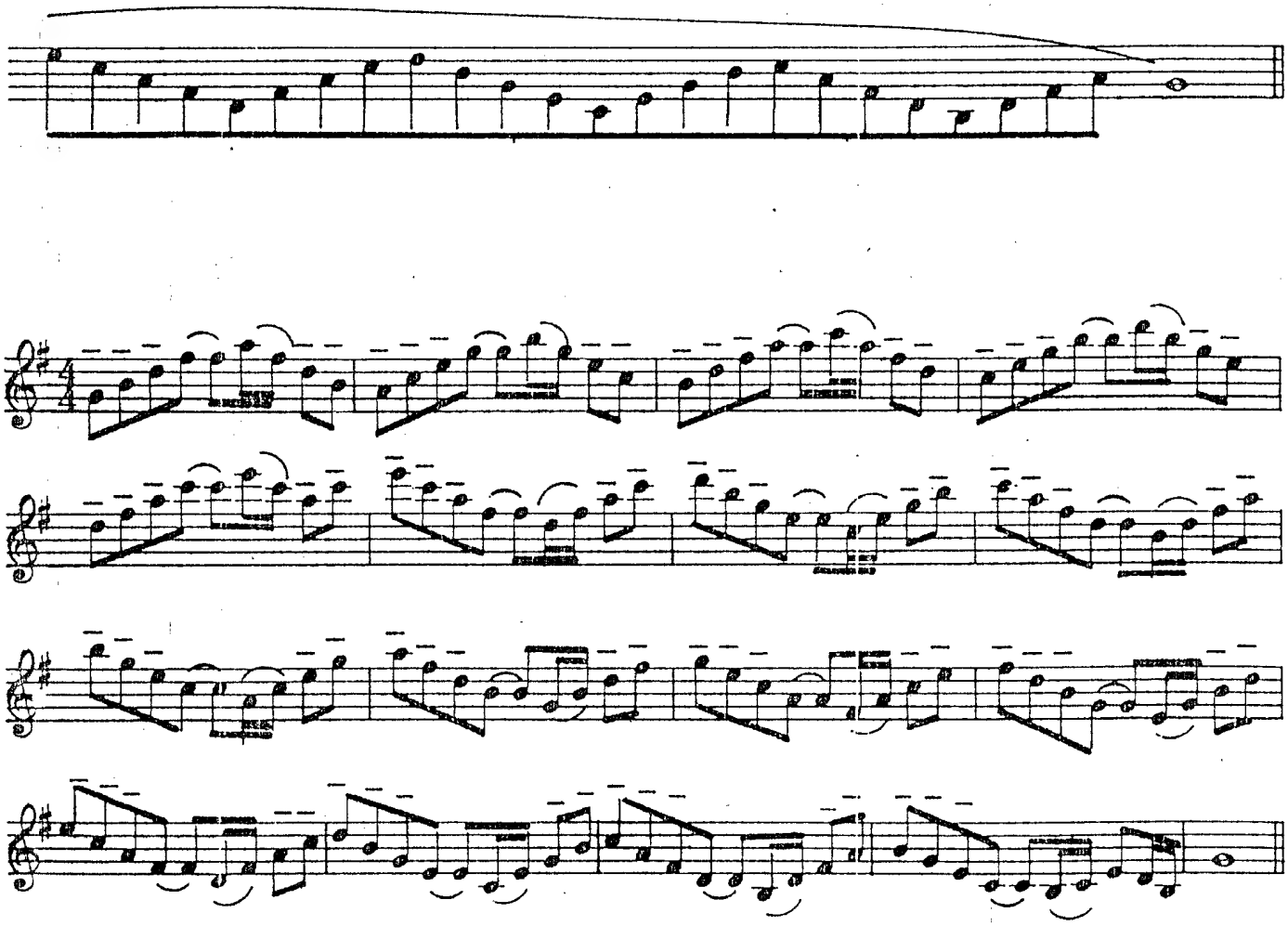




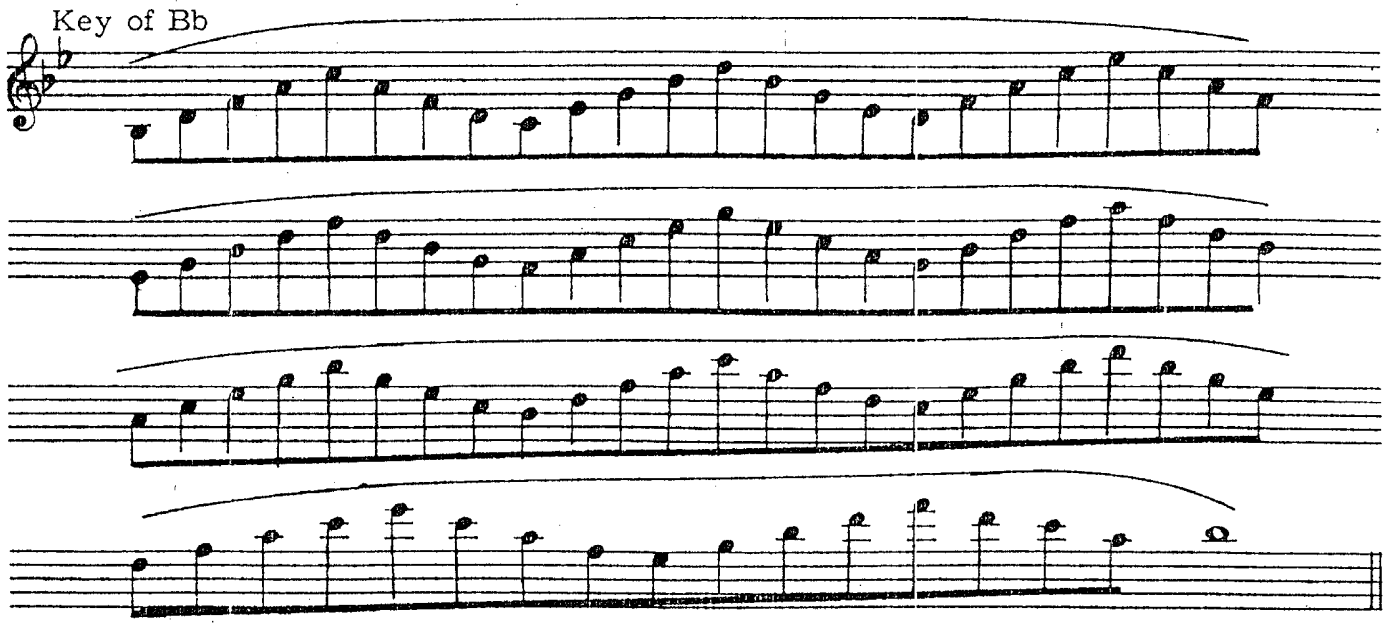


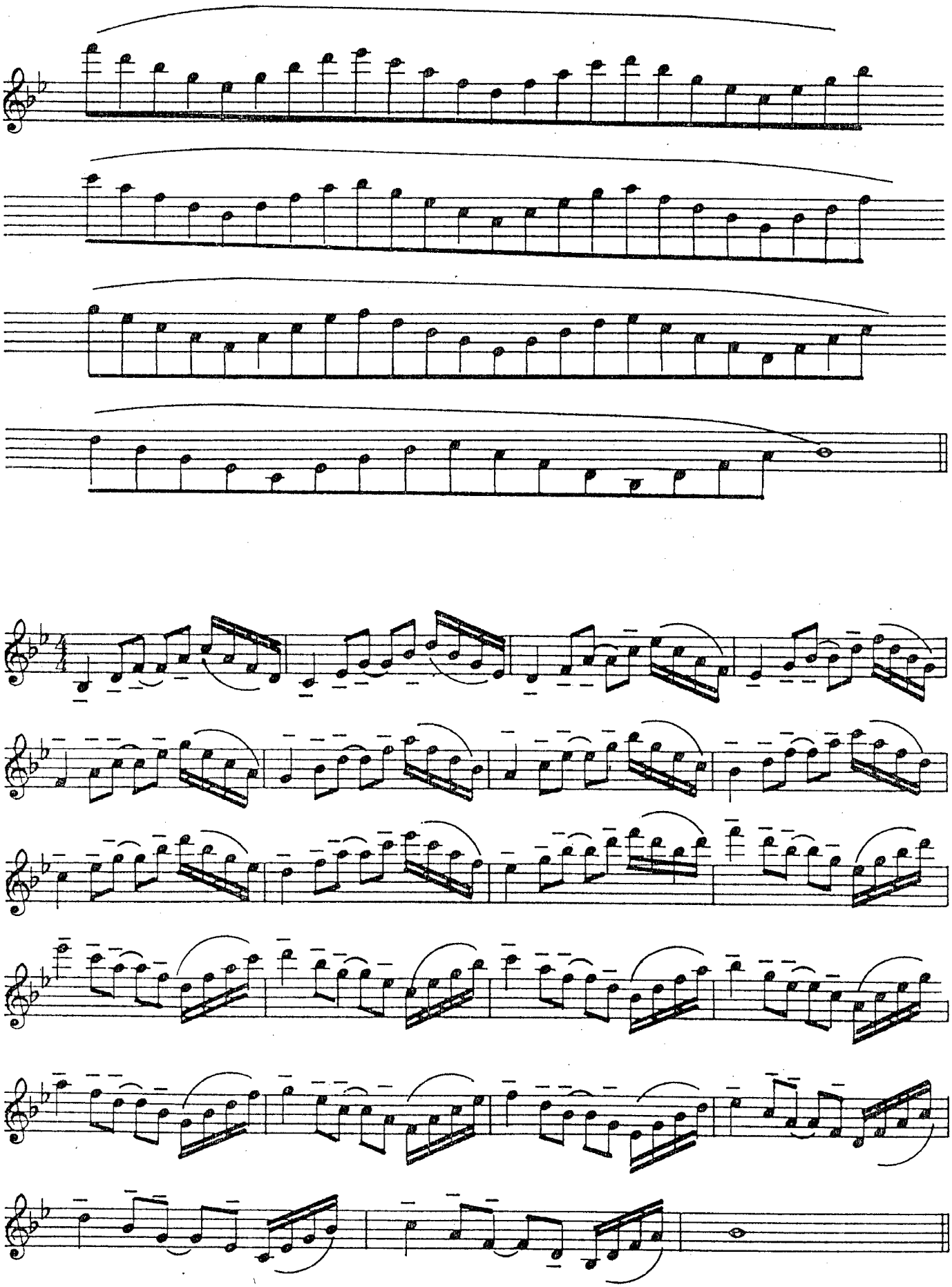
147 Key of G



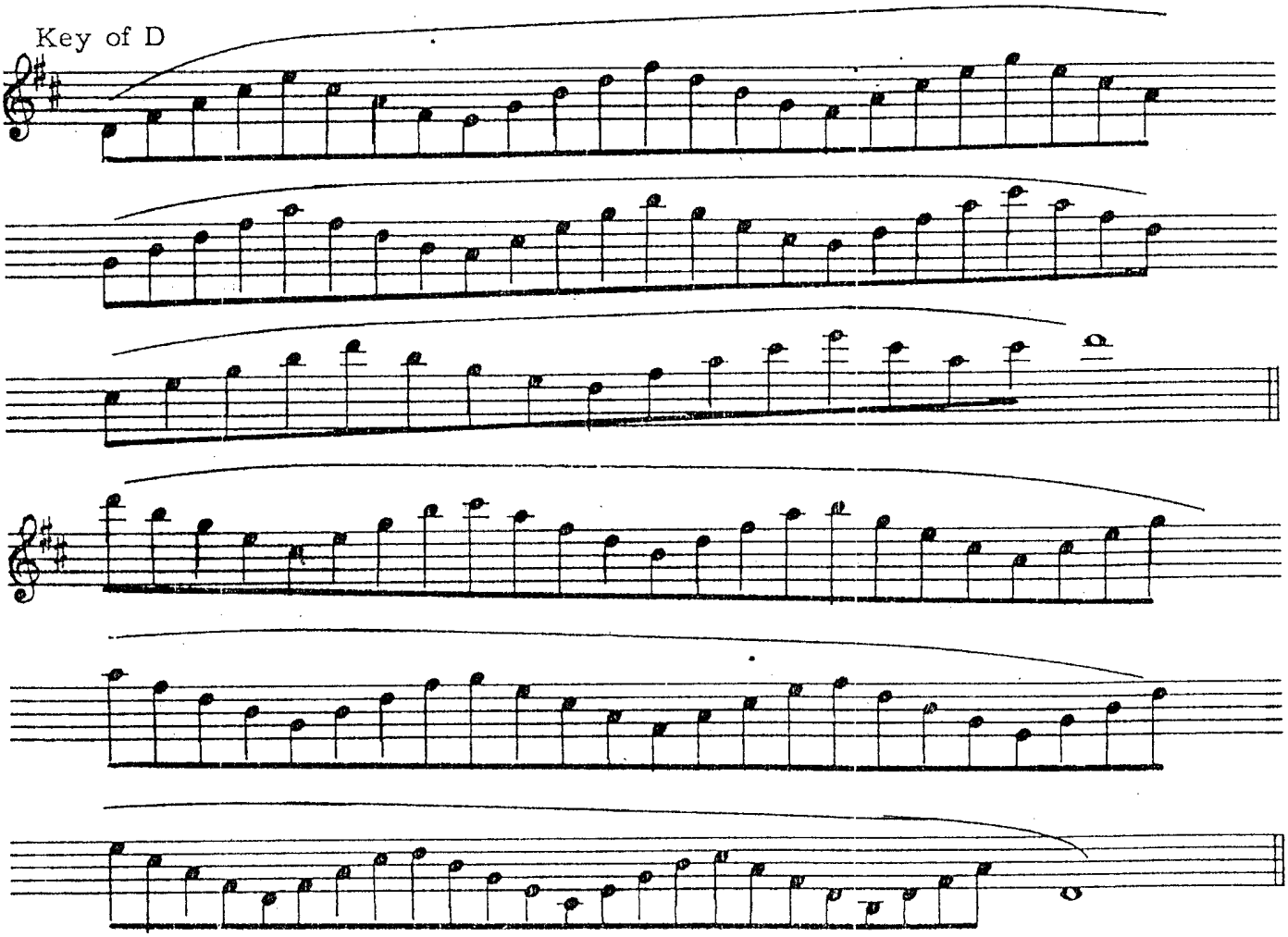


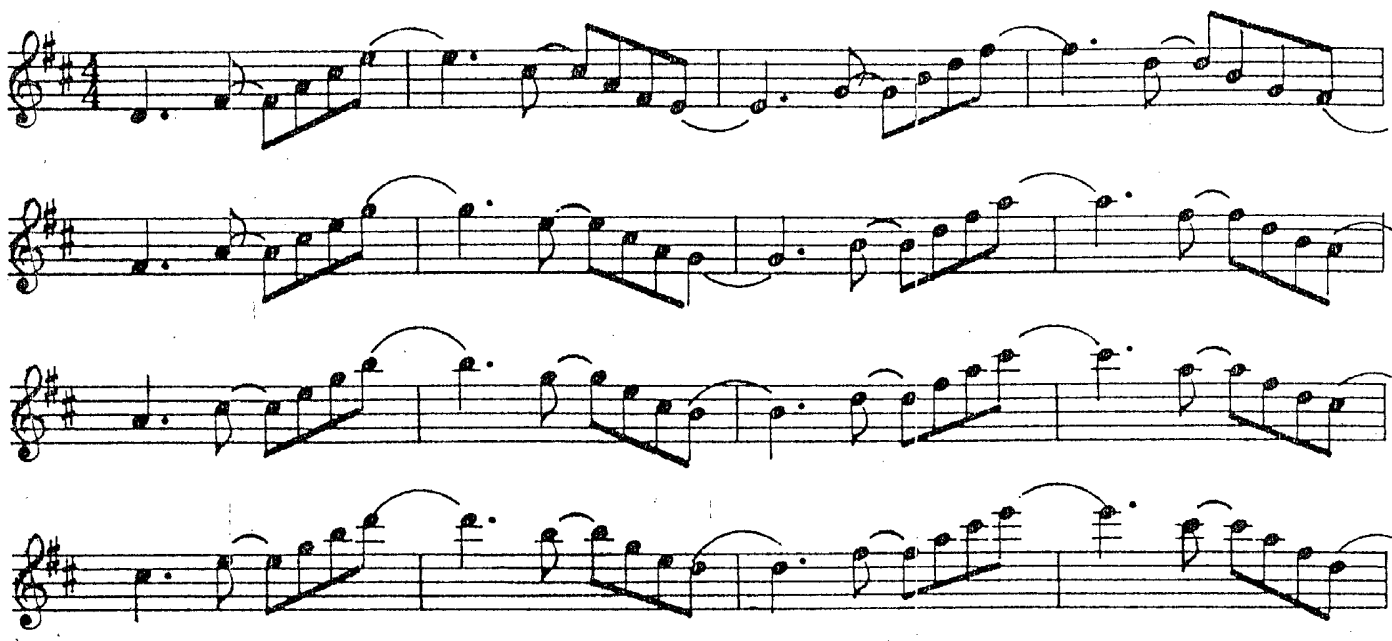
148 Key of Bb

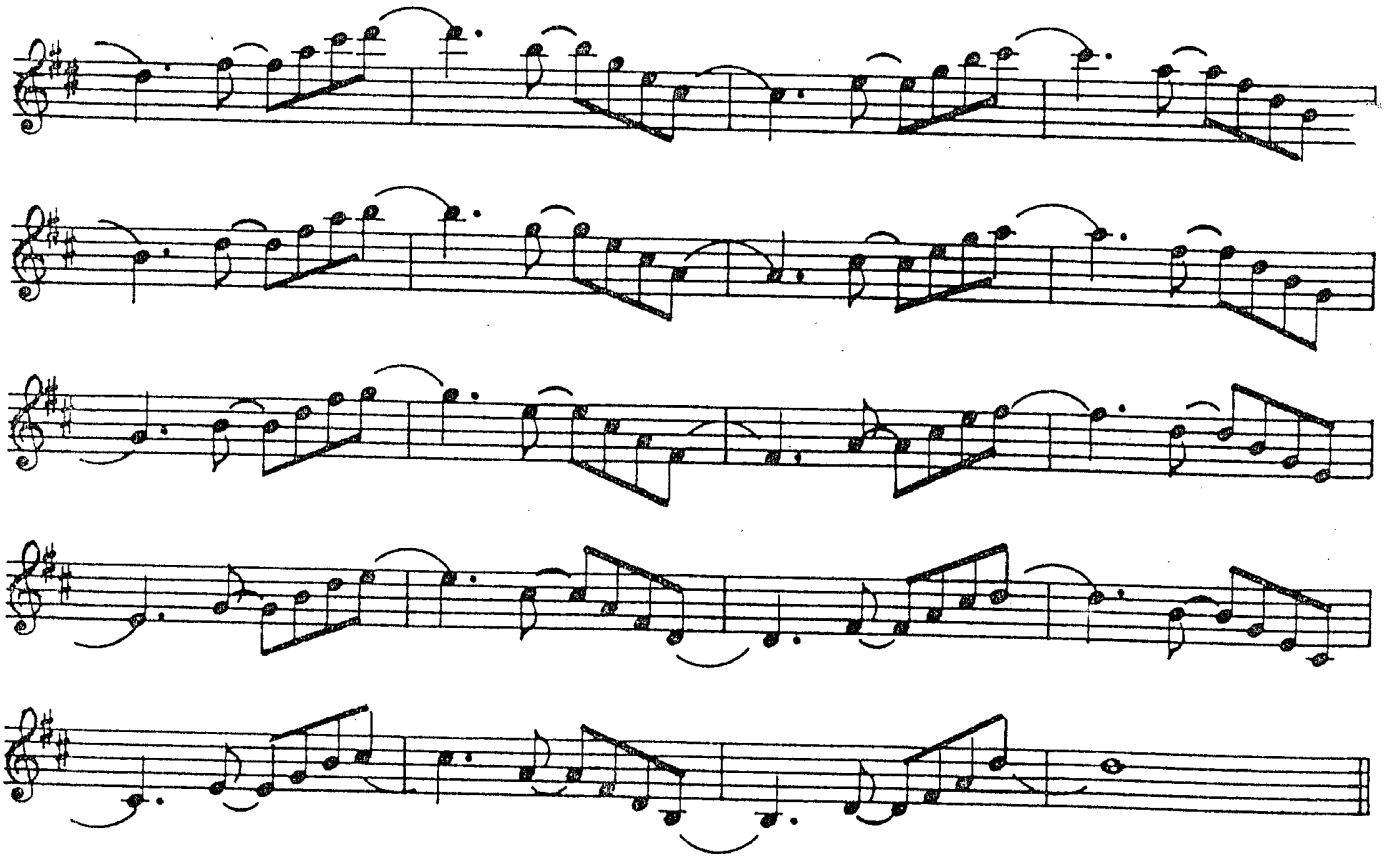




149 Key of D







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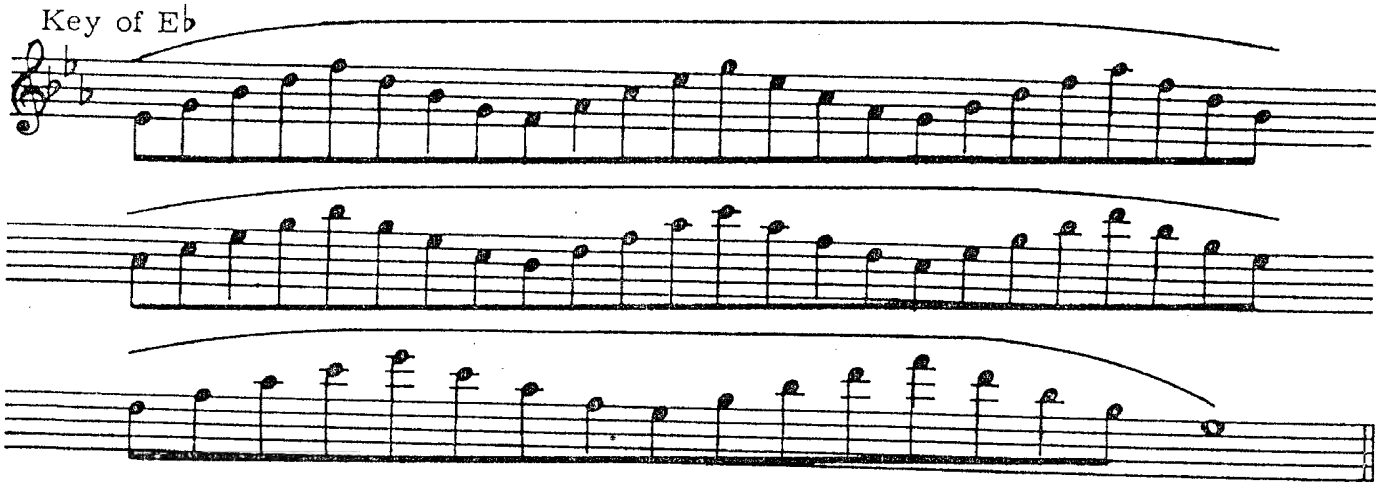
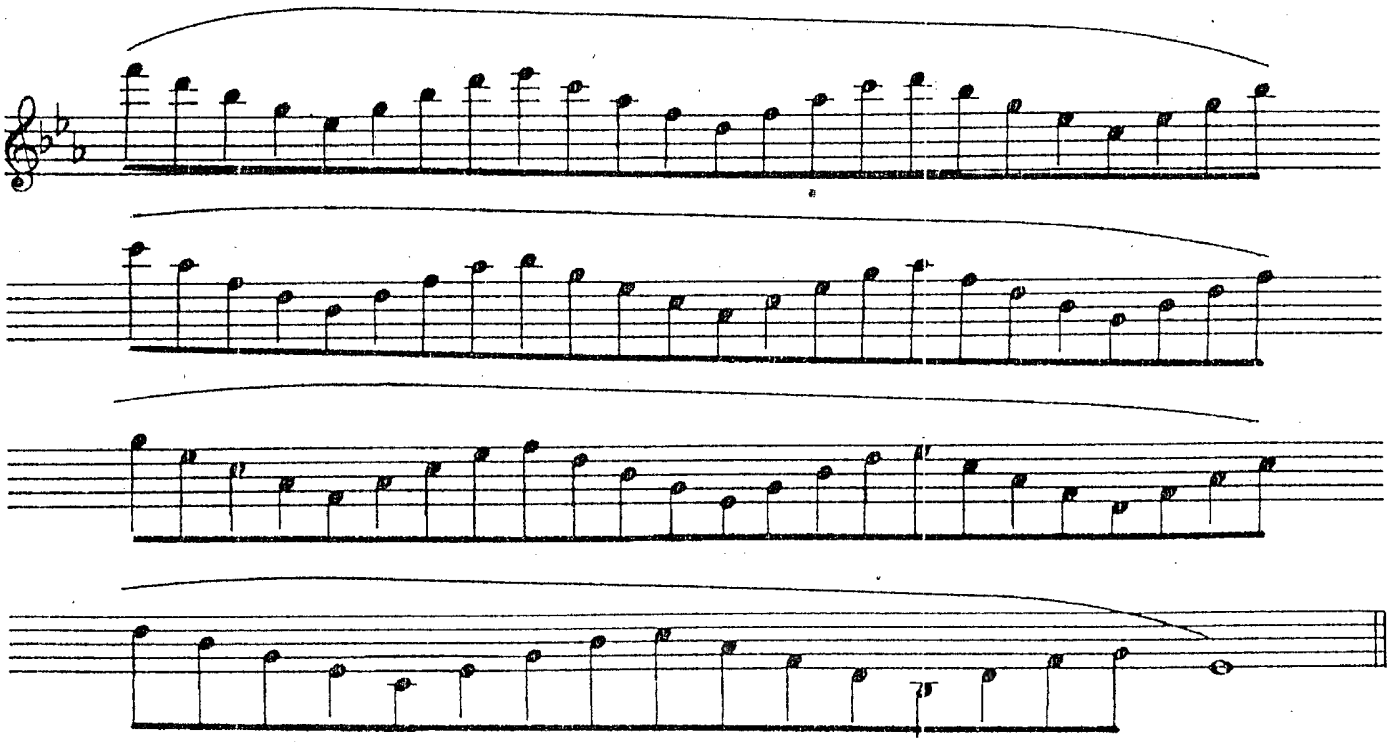
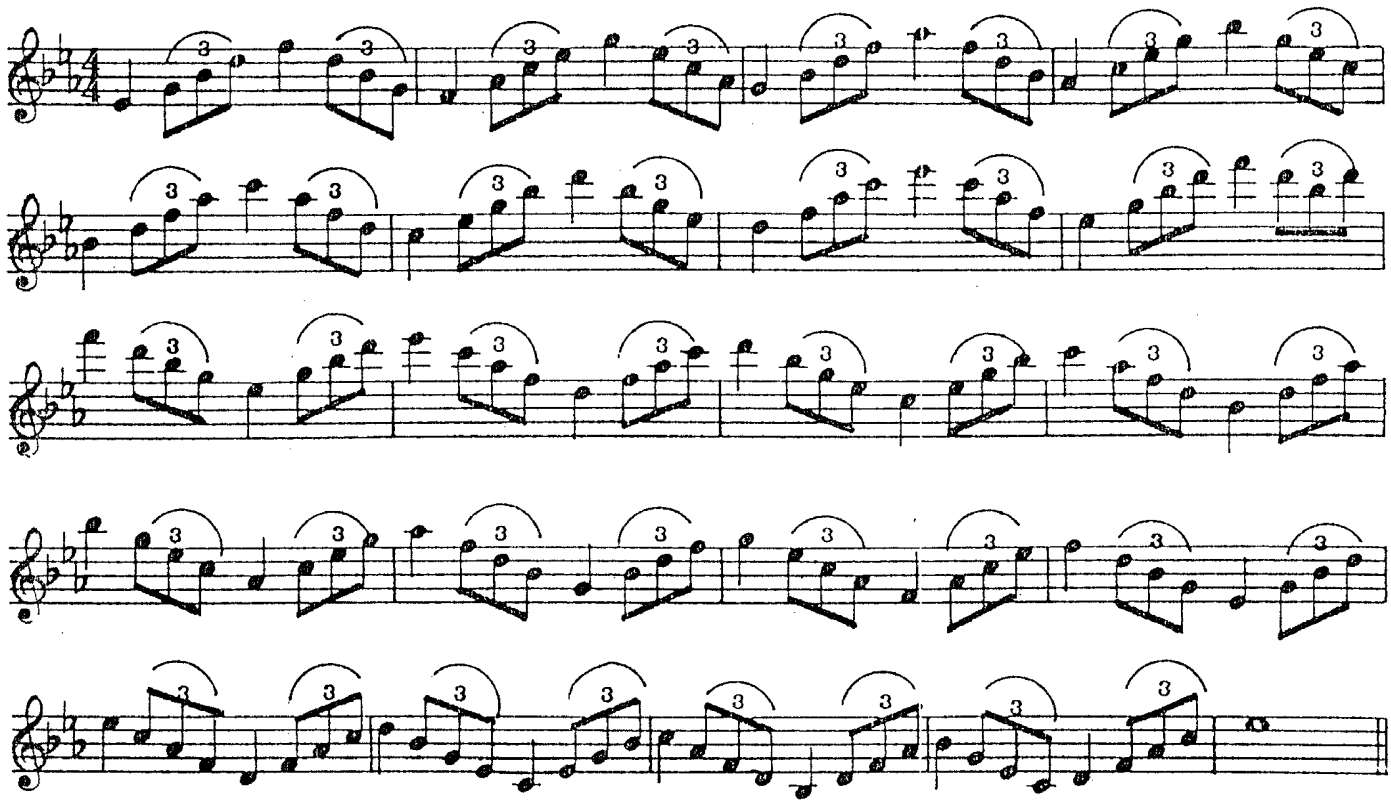
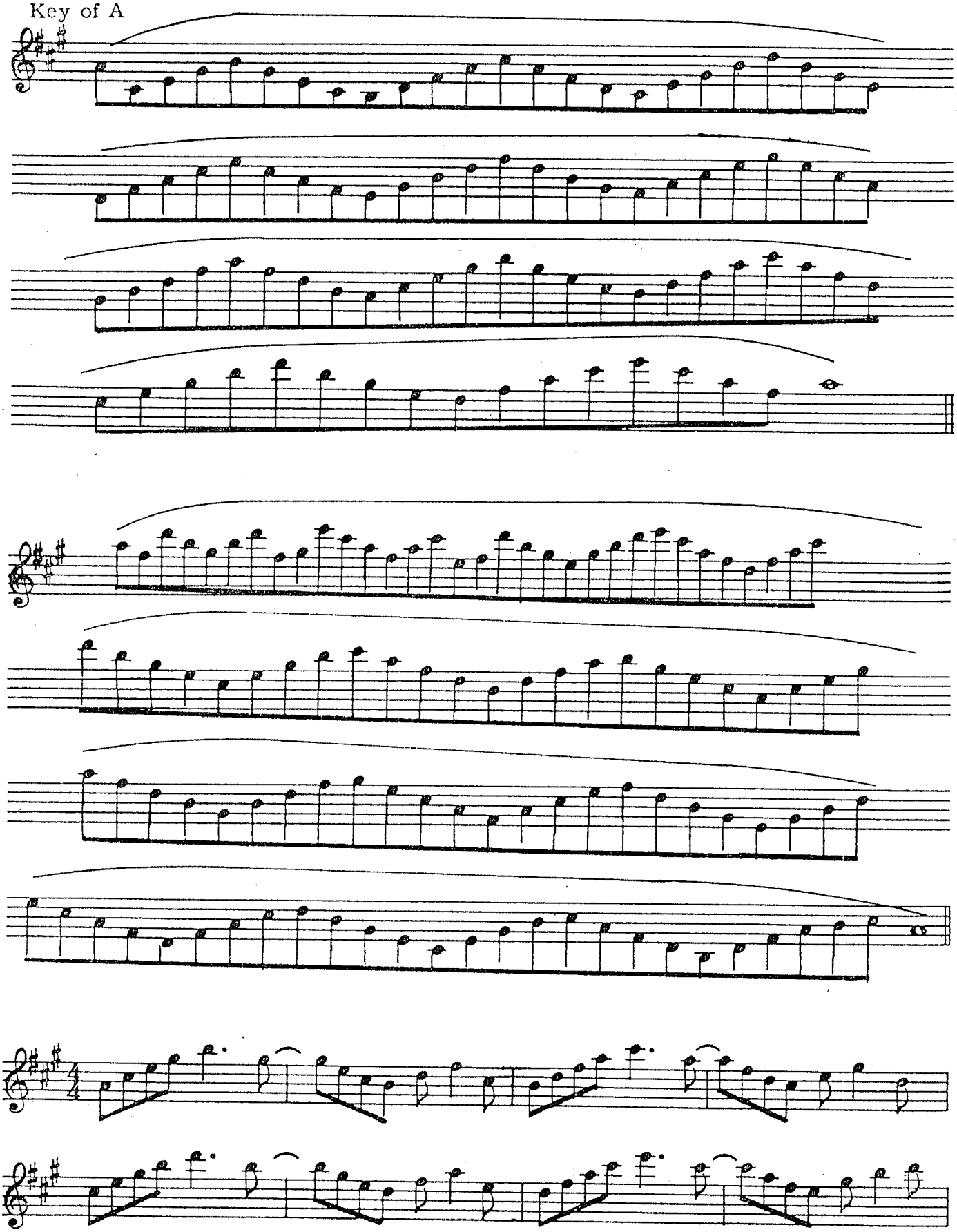
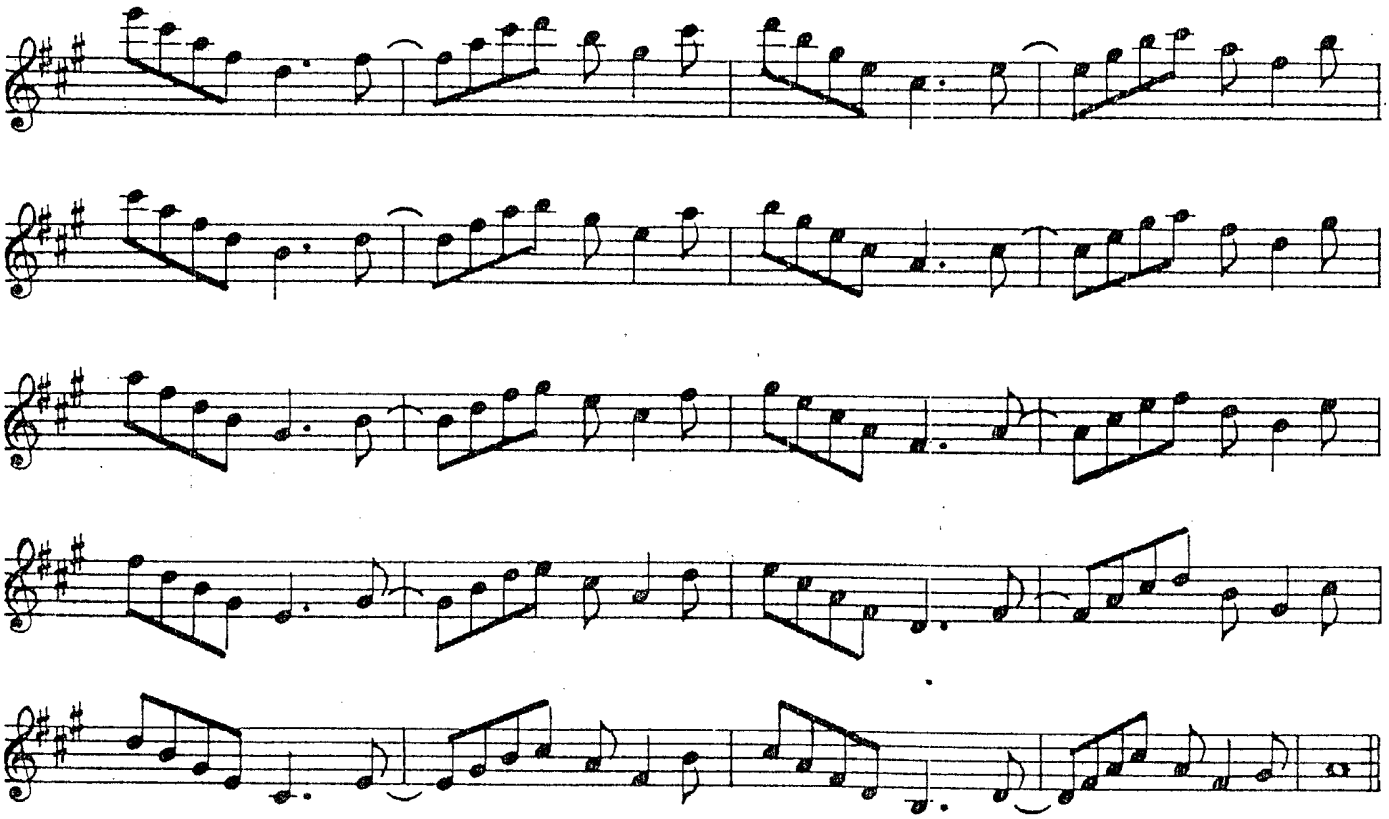






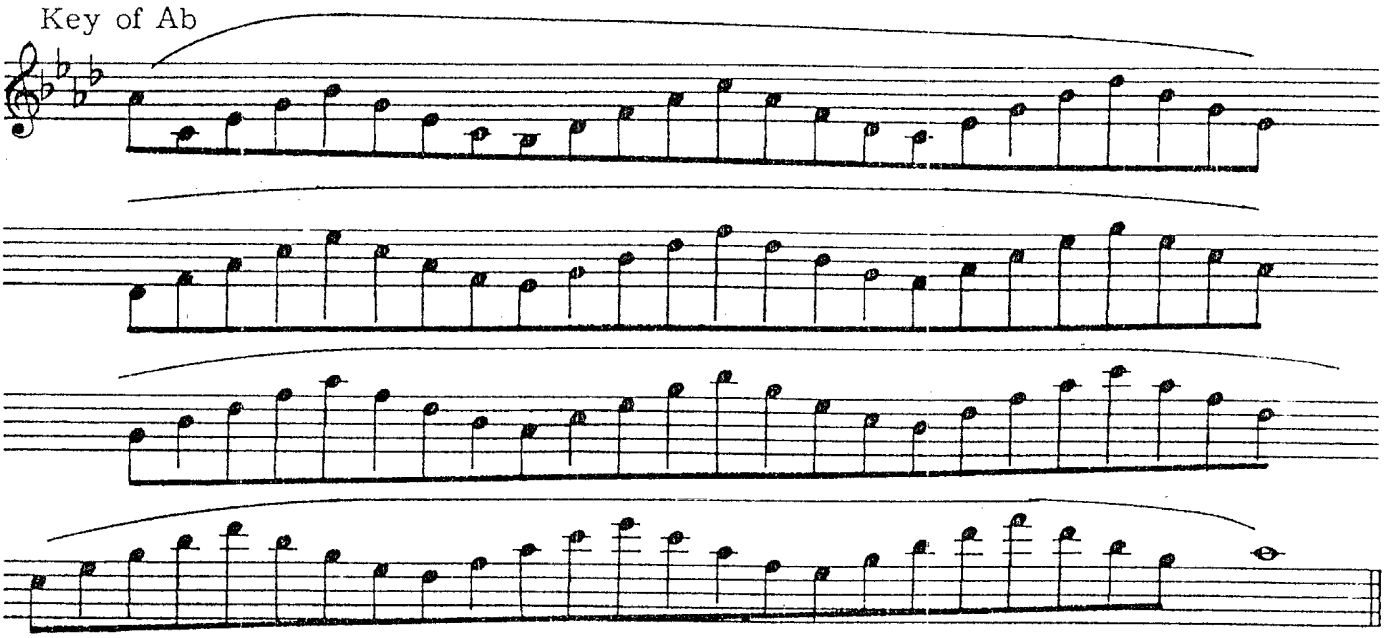
151 Key of A

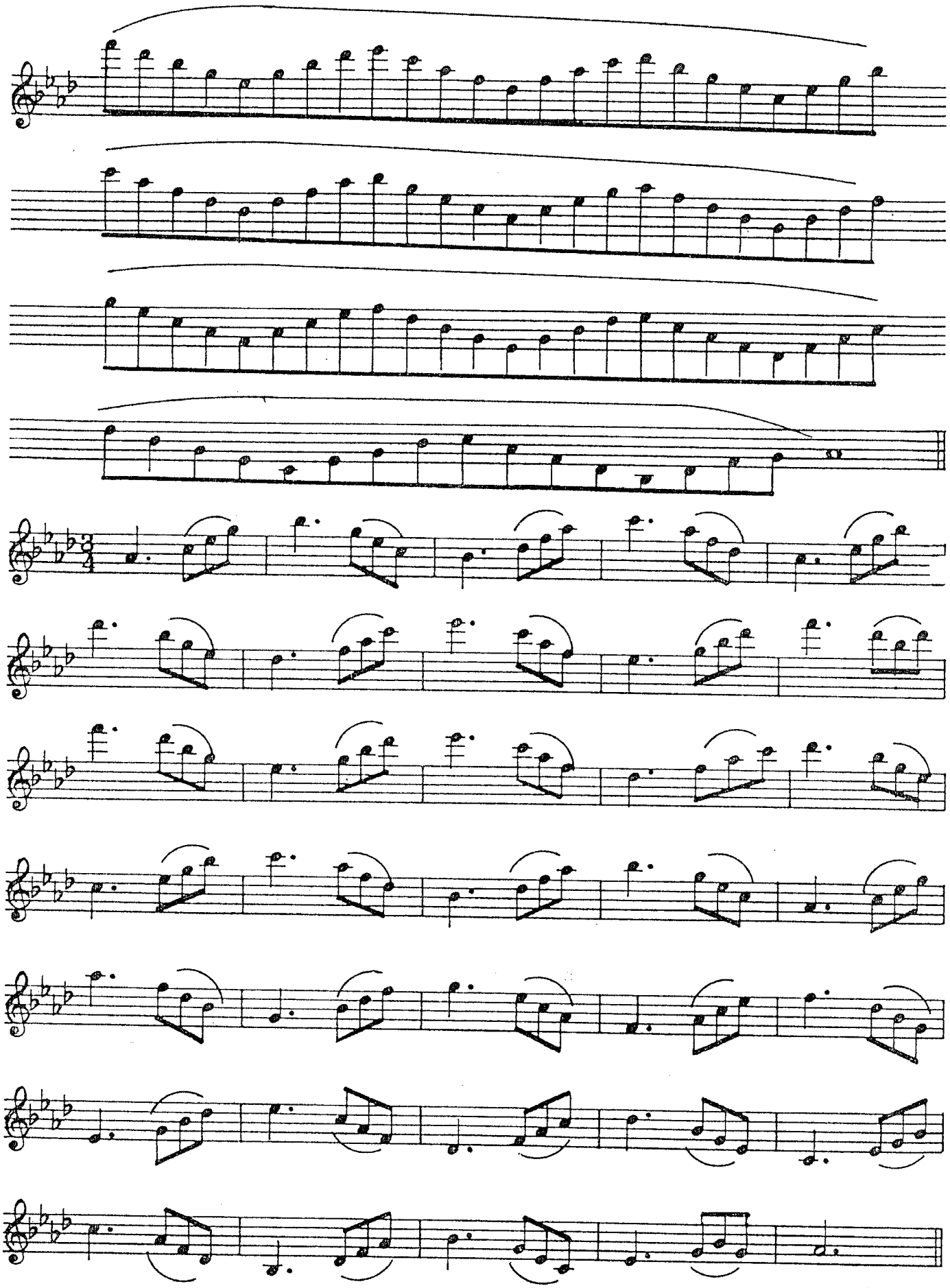




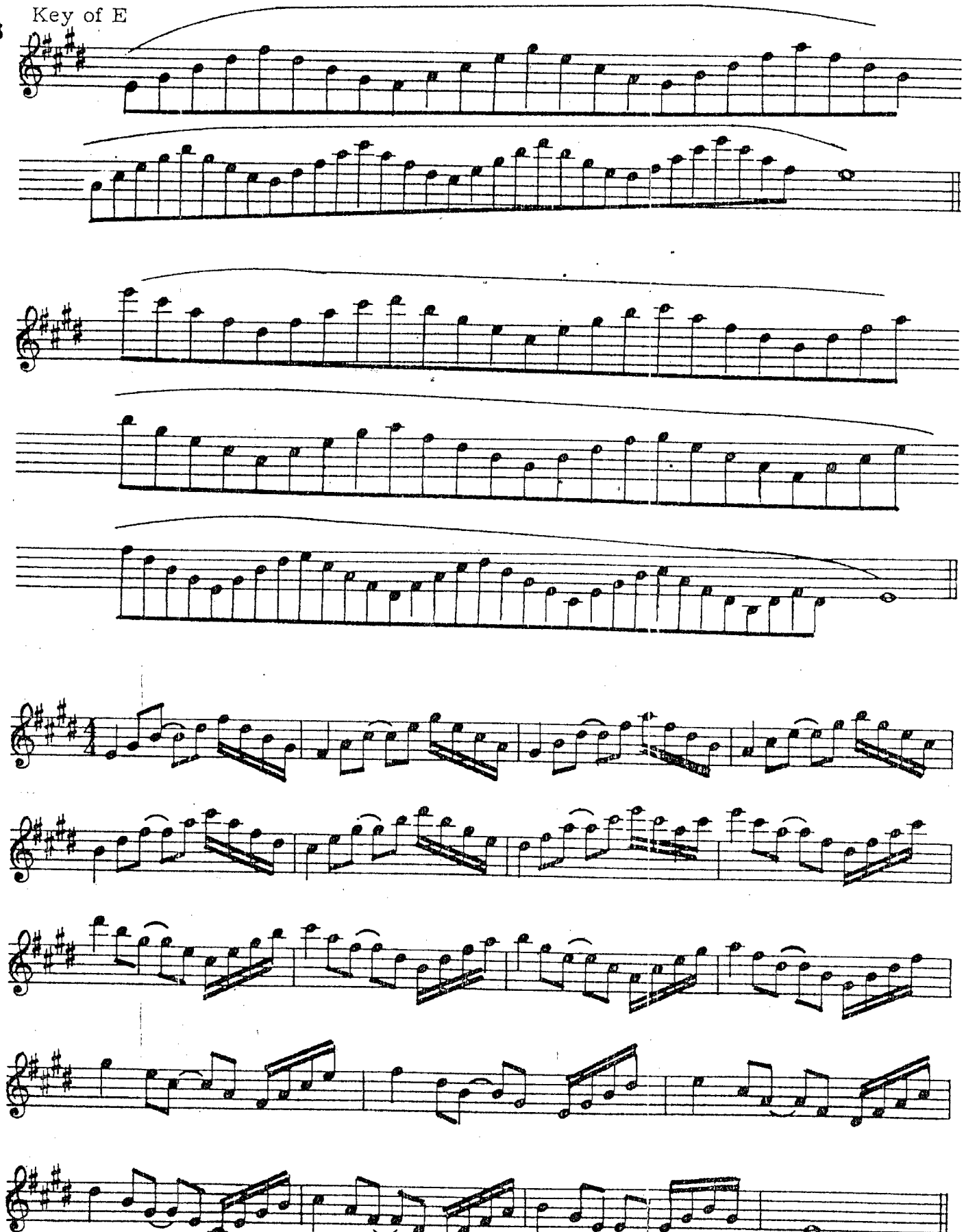
152

Key of Ab



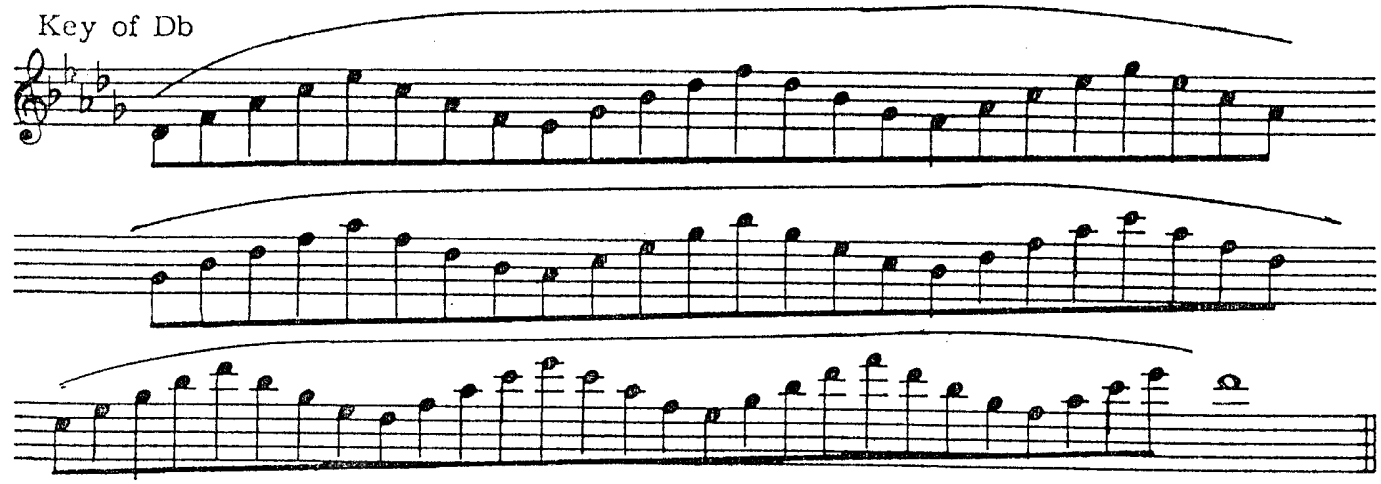


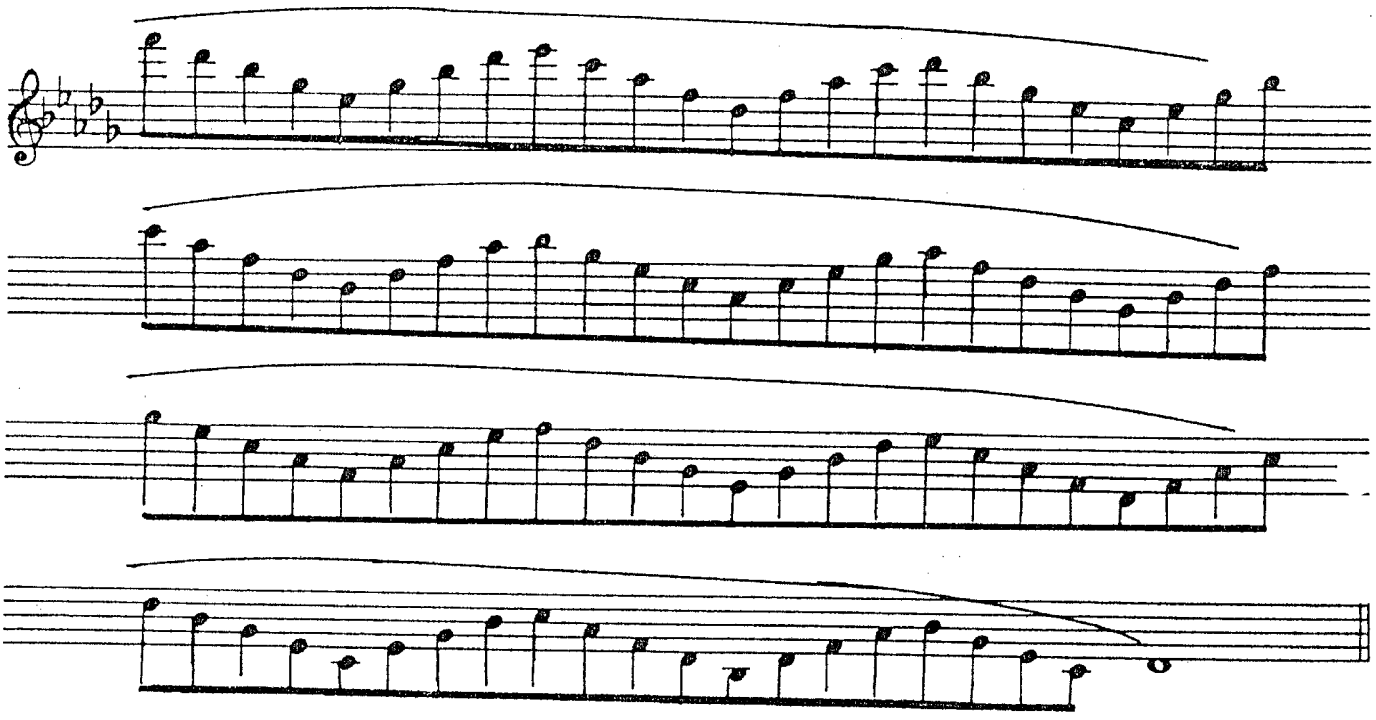
153 Key of E

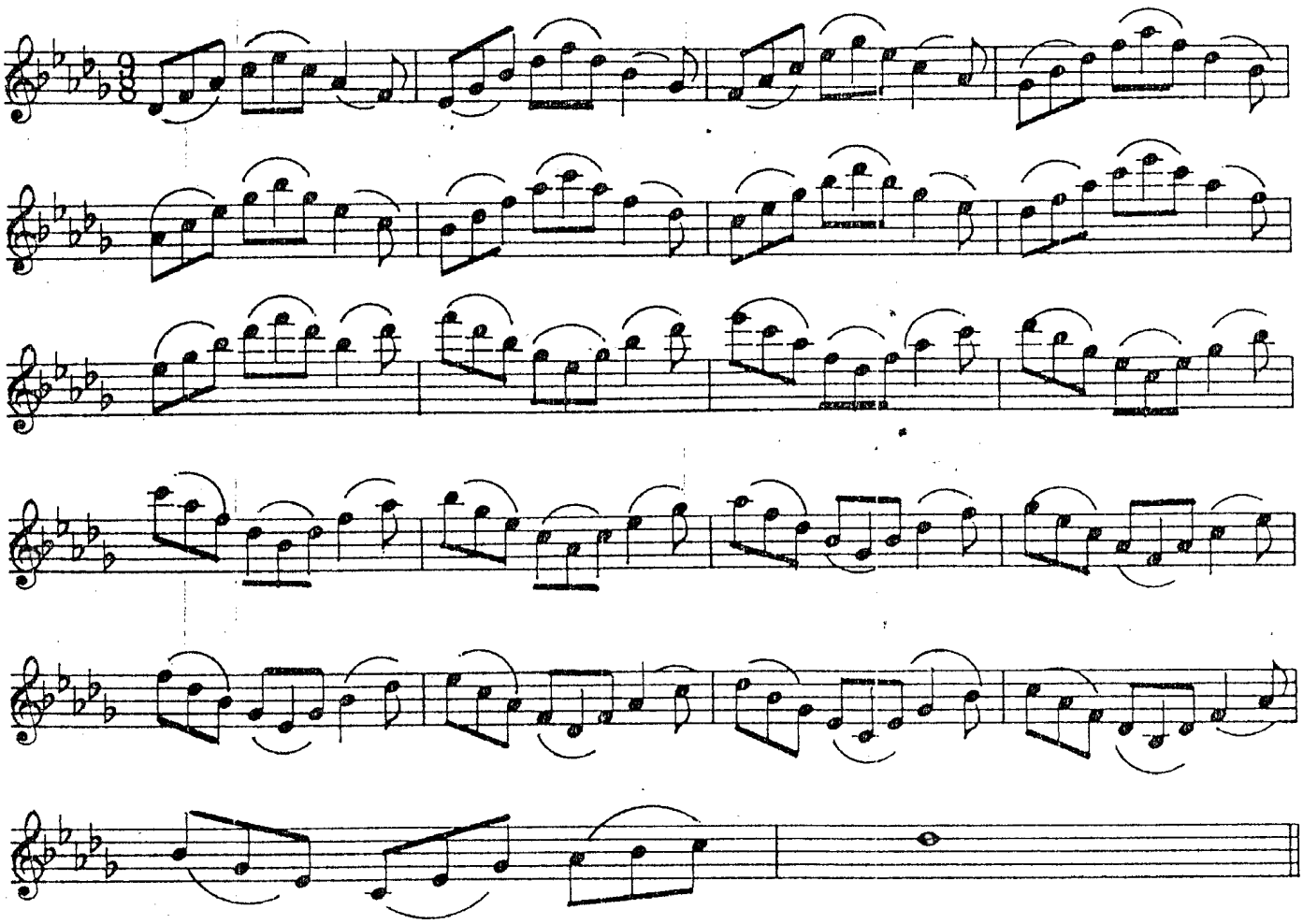


M.M. 152

154 Key of Db







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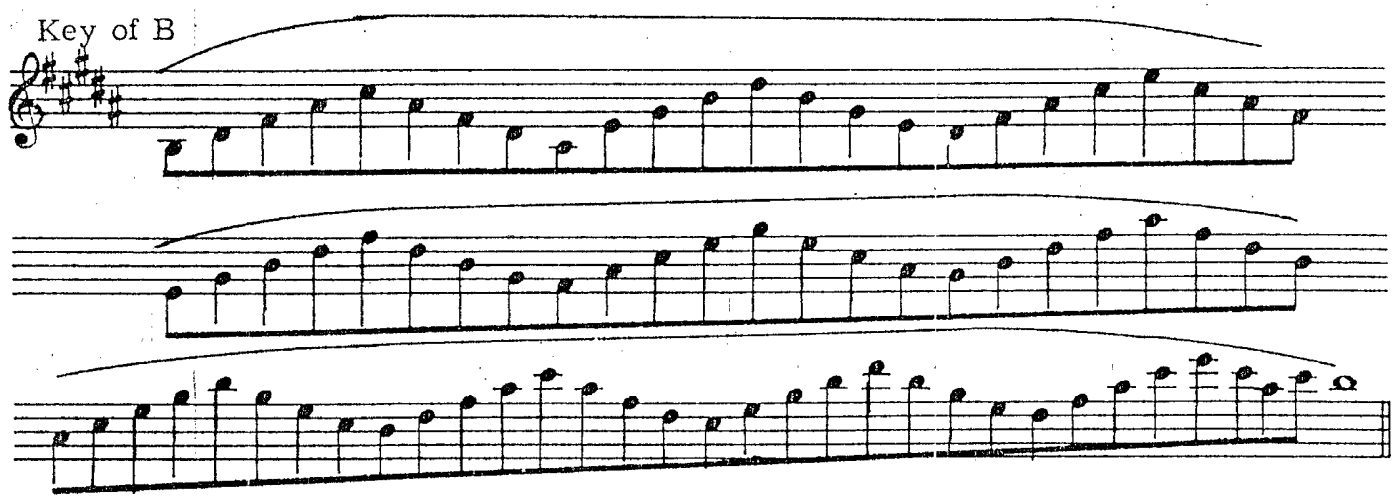
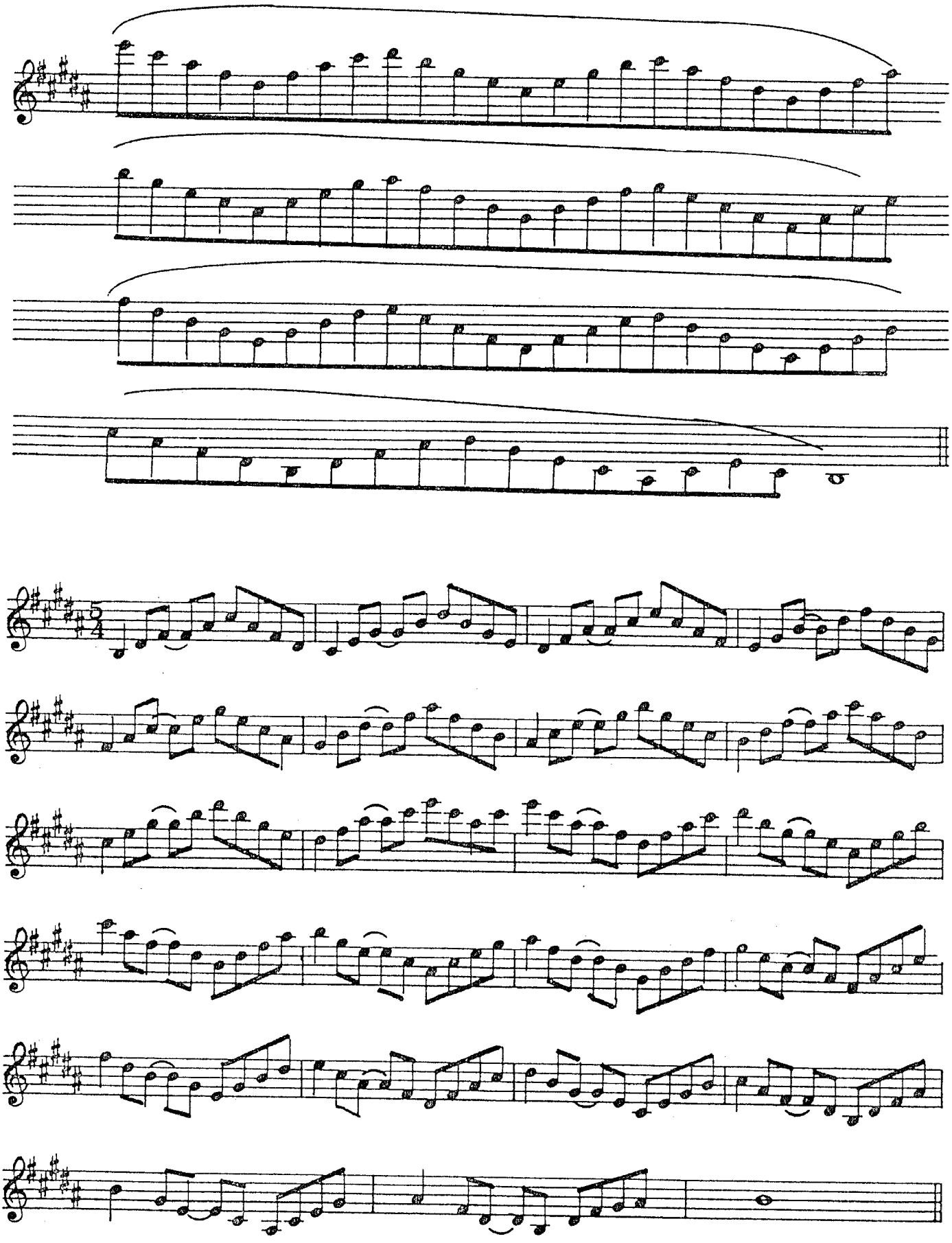
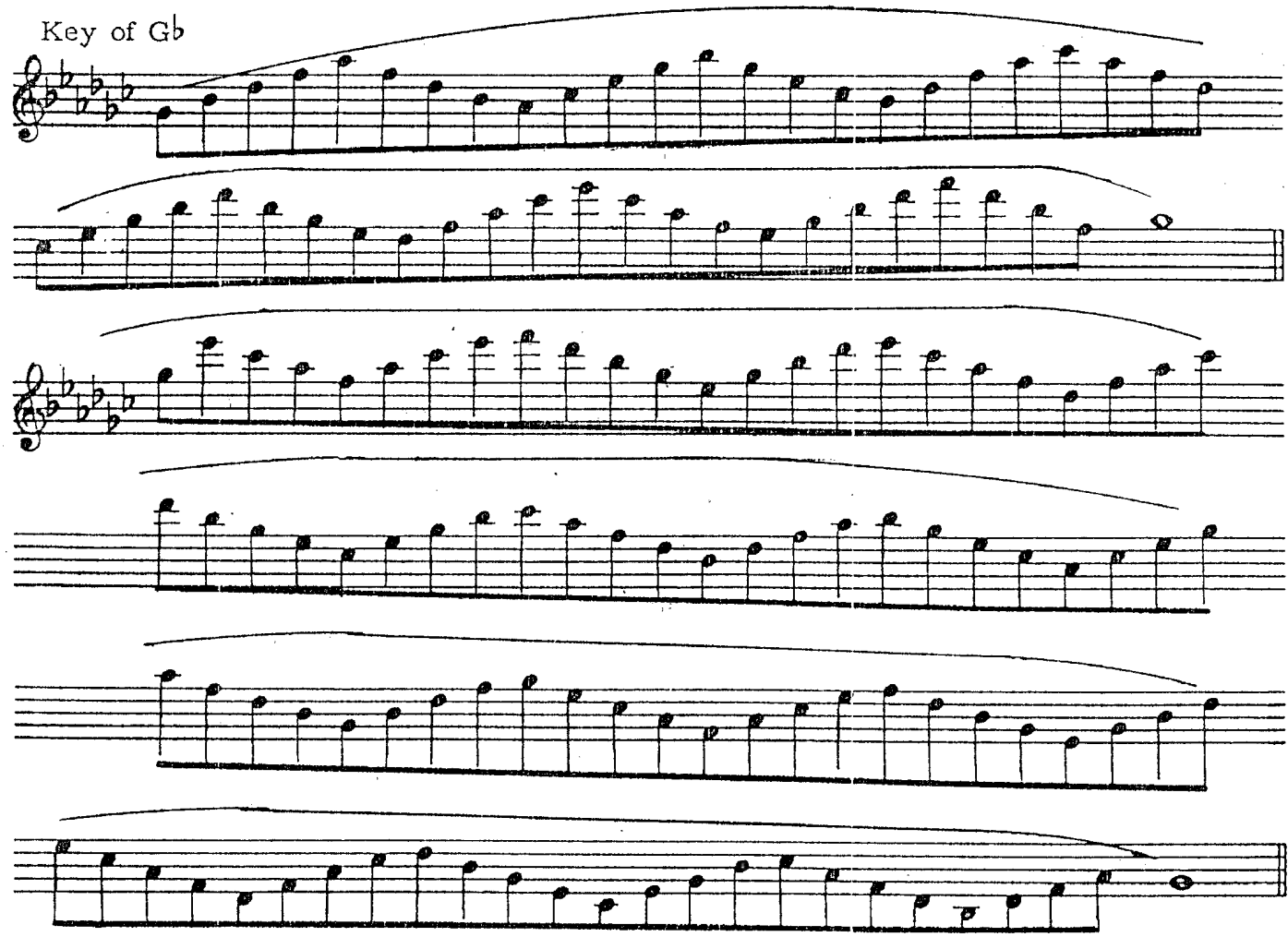
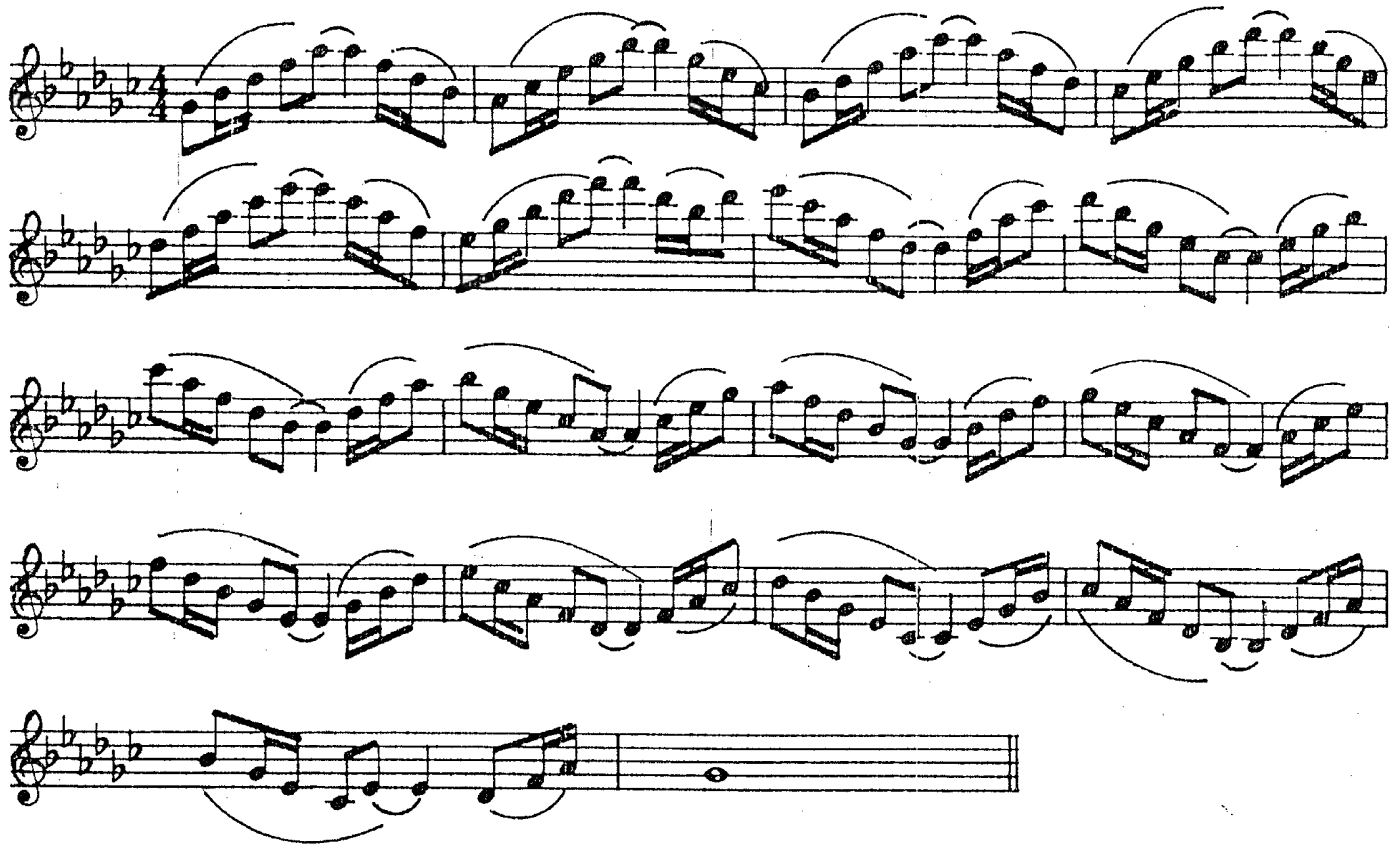




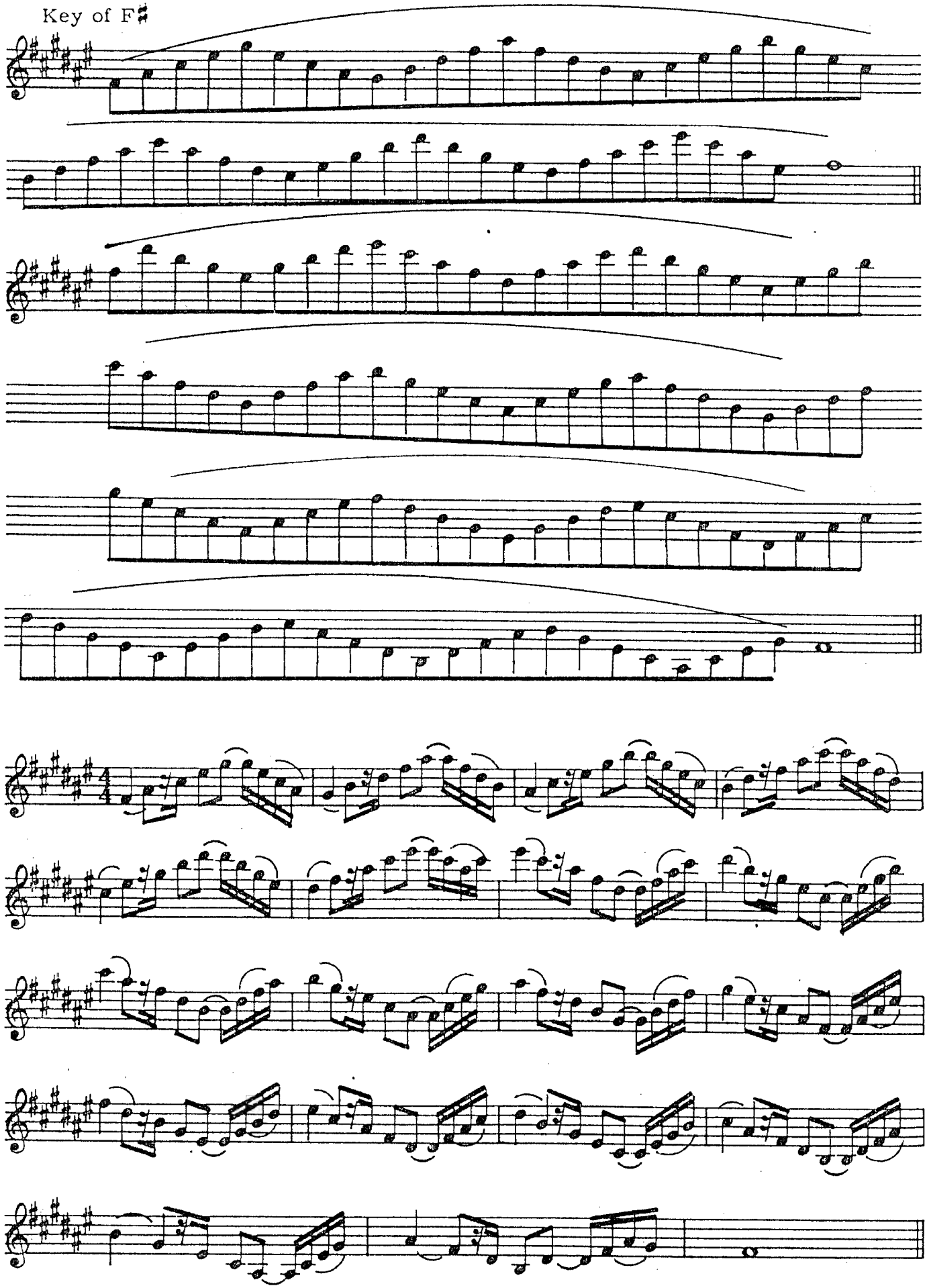
156 Key of Gb



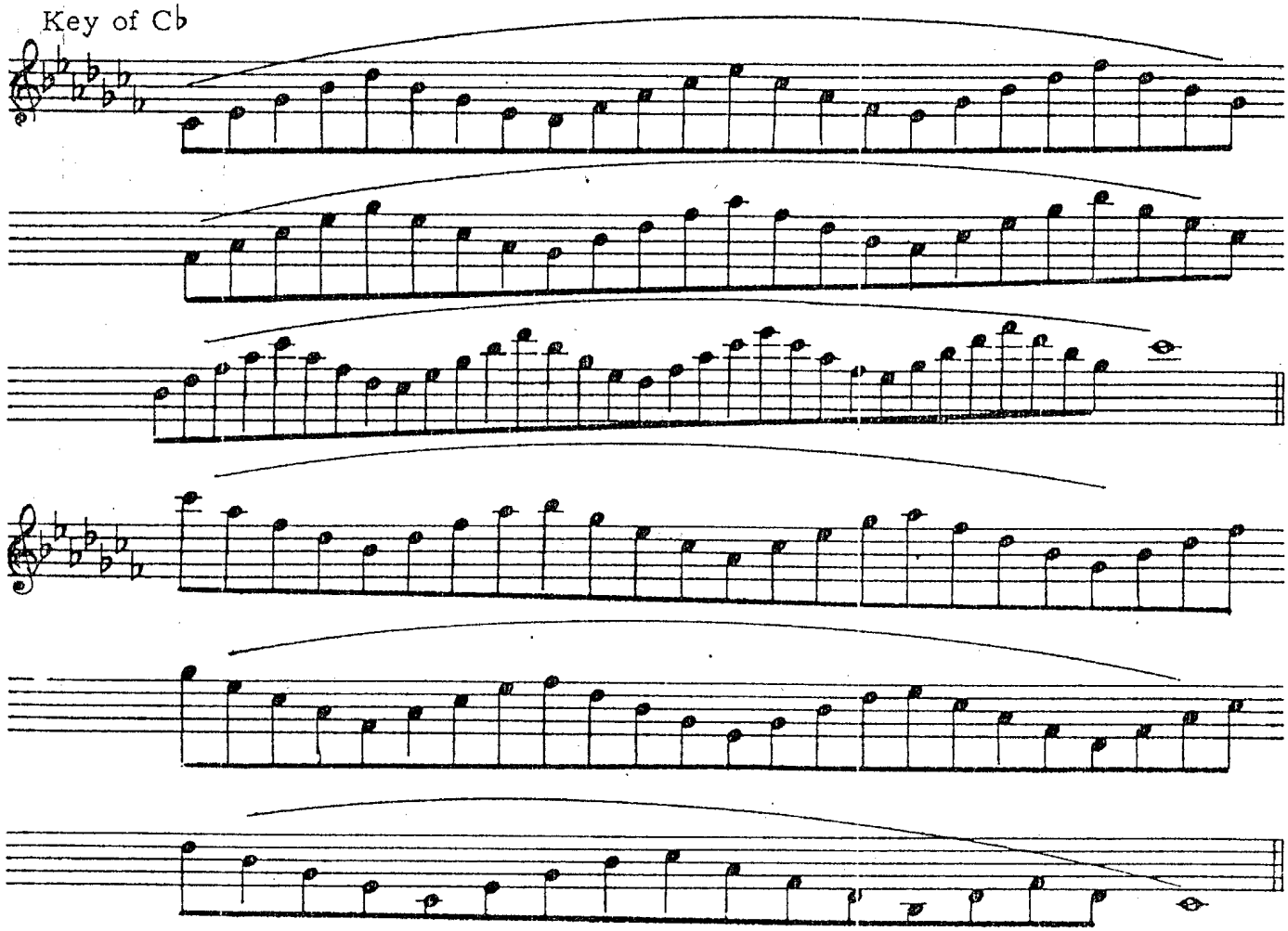


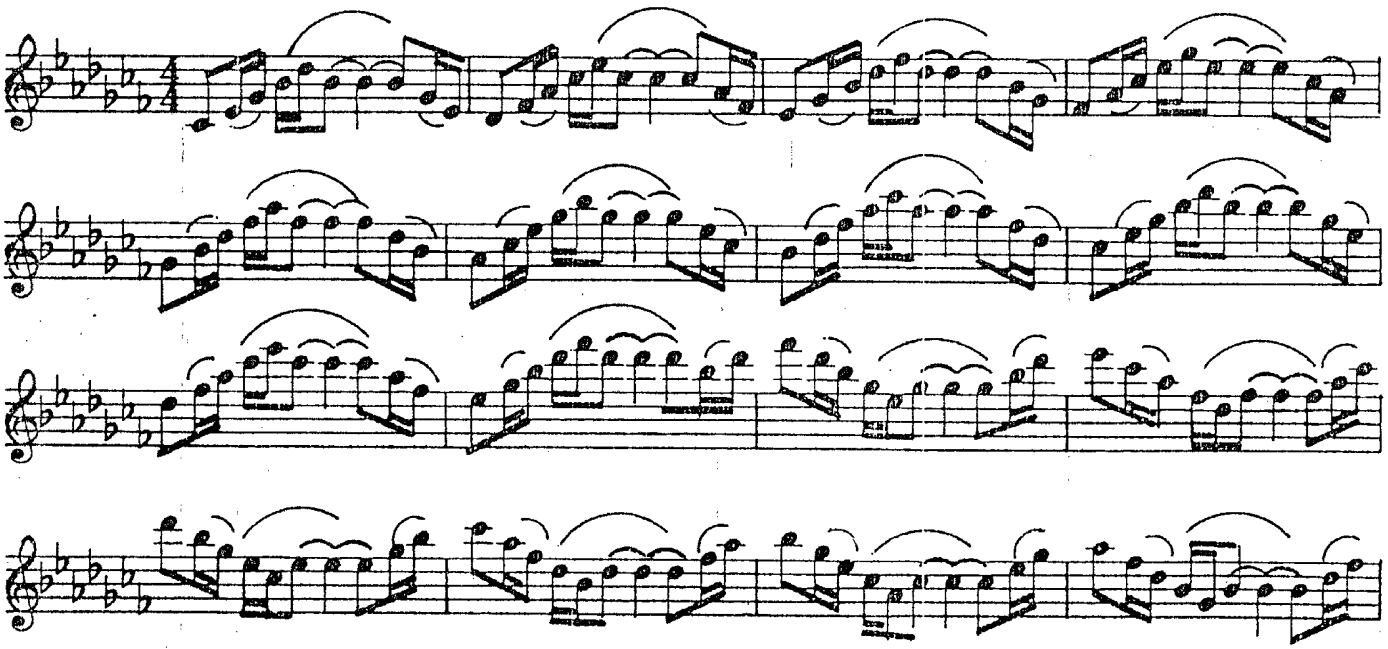
157

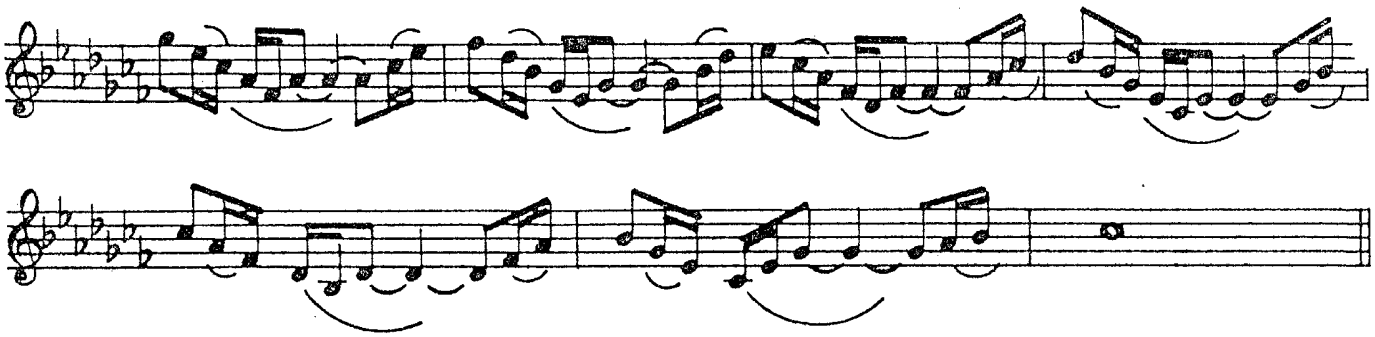
Key of F♯



158 Key of C♭







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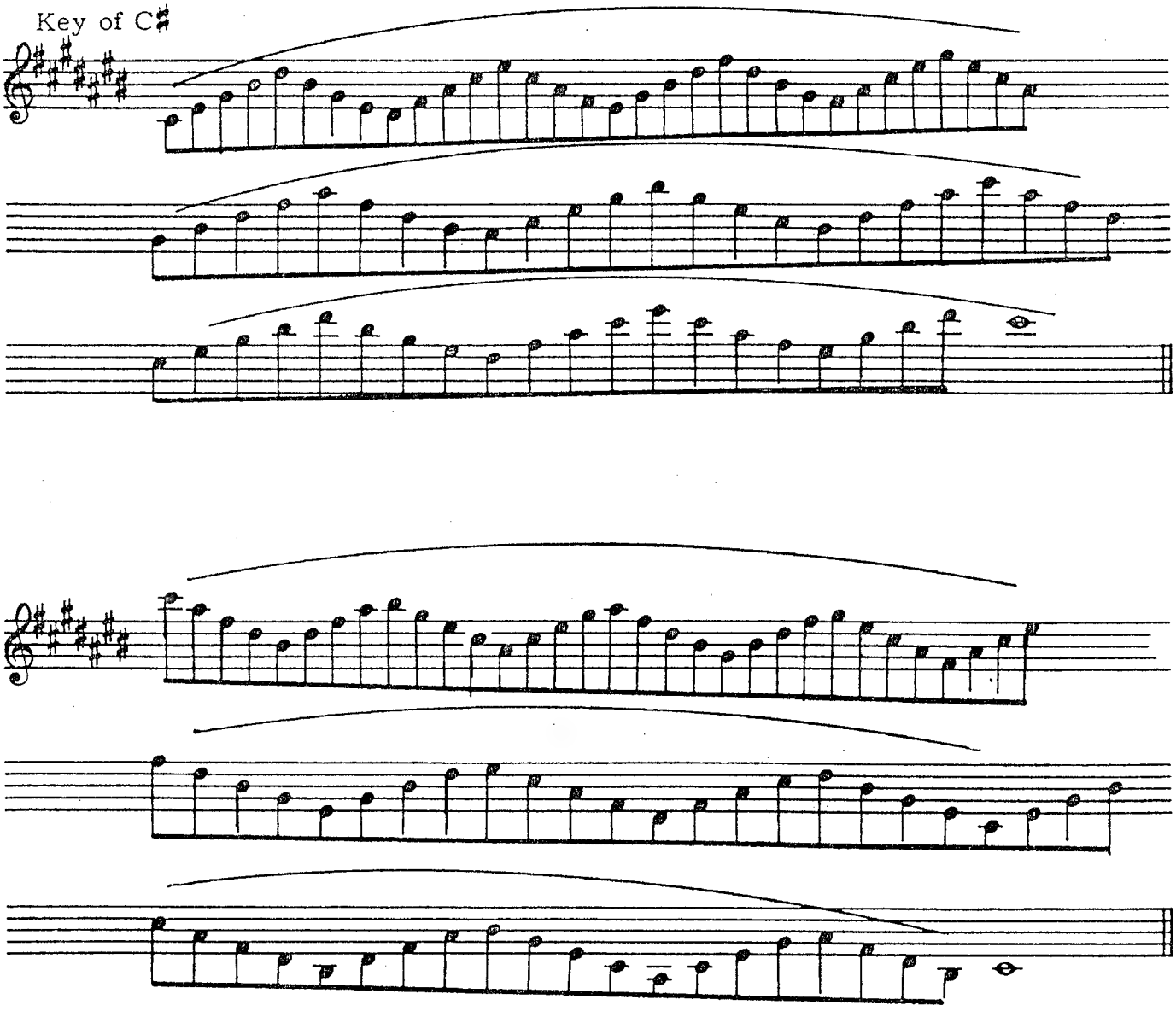
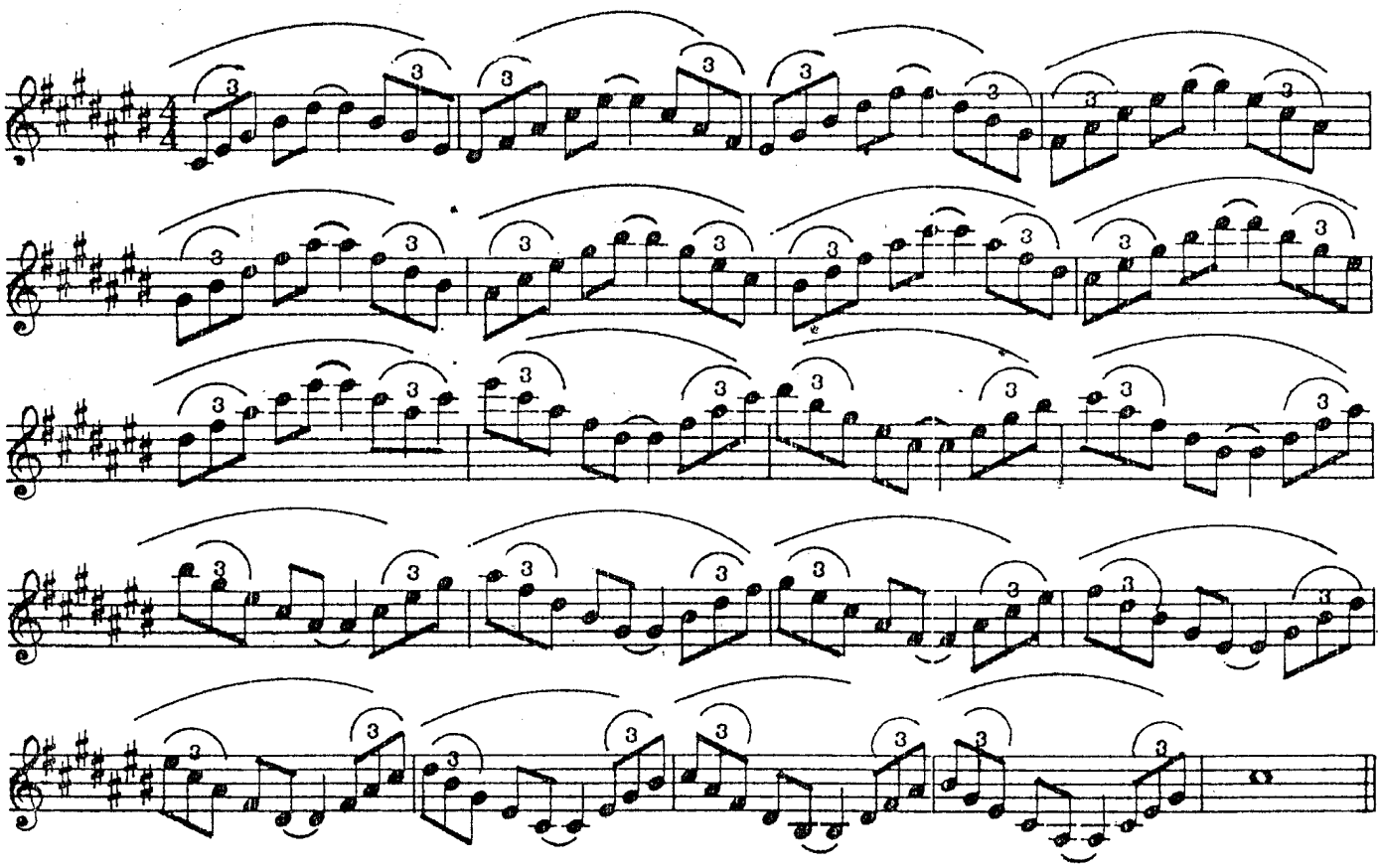
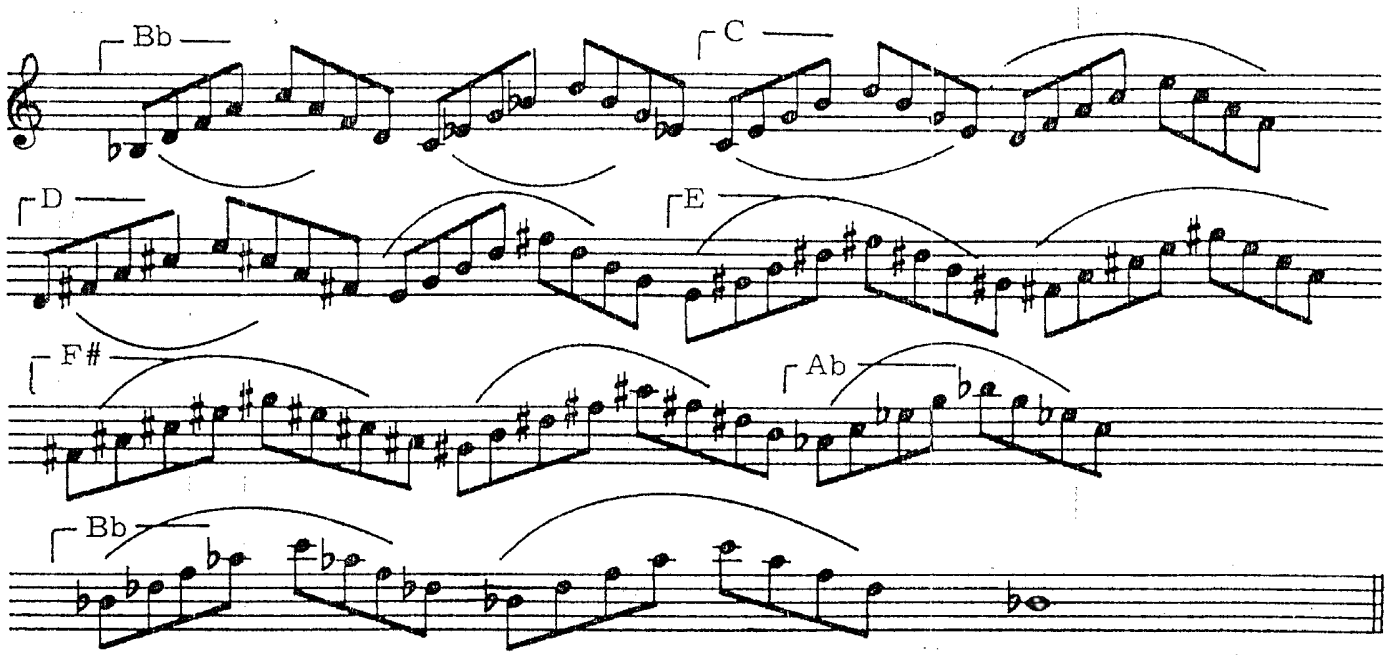




PENTADS - POLYTONAL VARIATIONS

(see author's notes)

160



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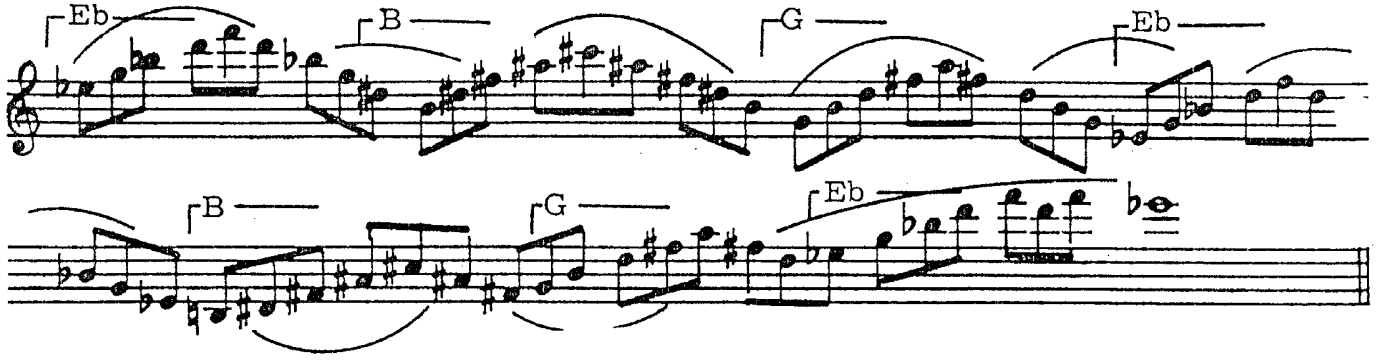

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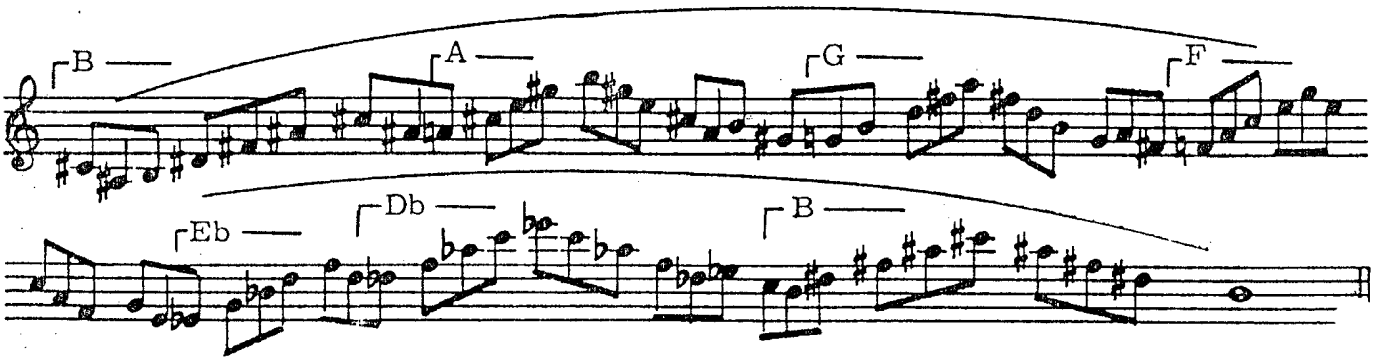

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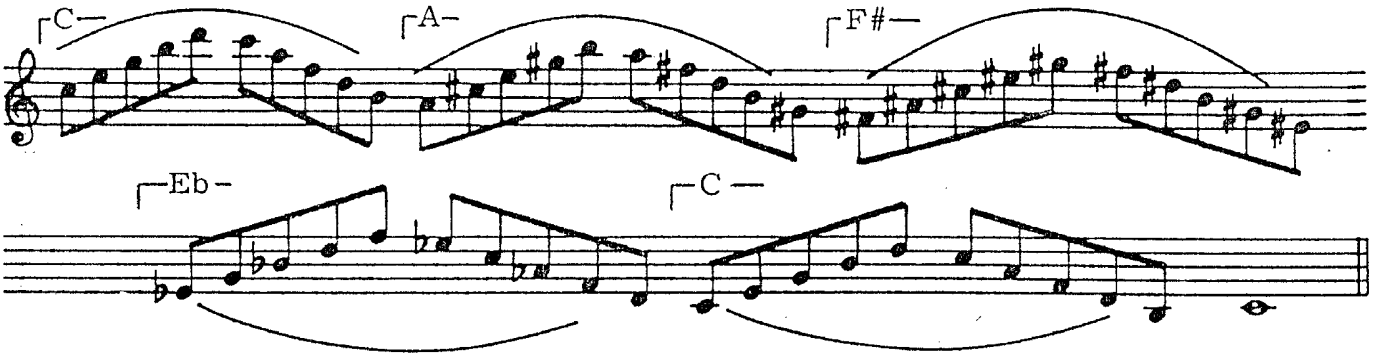

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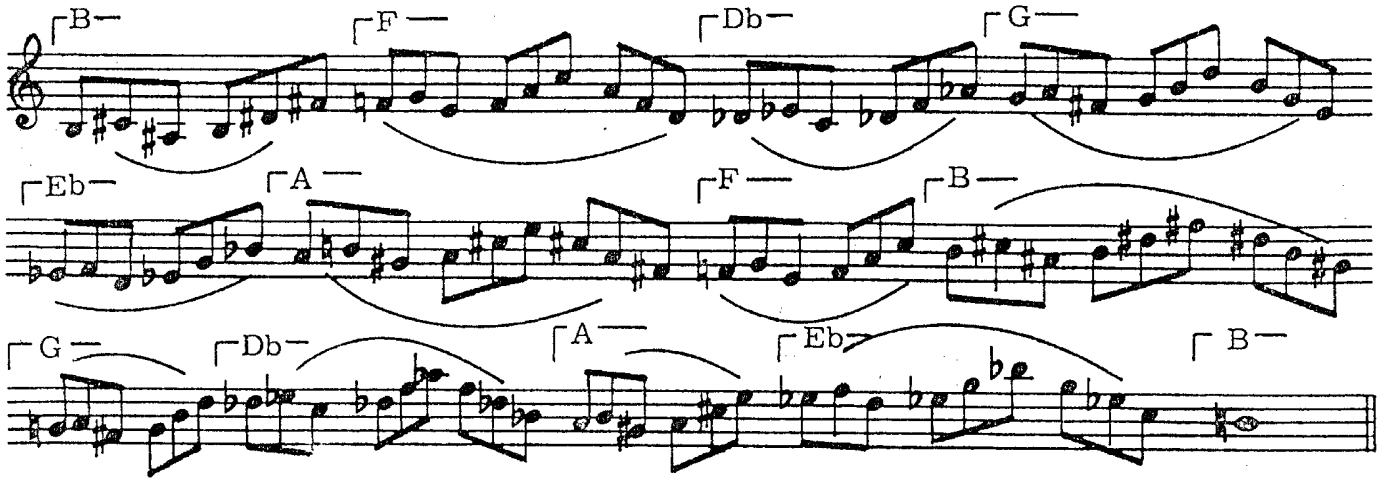

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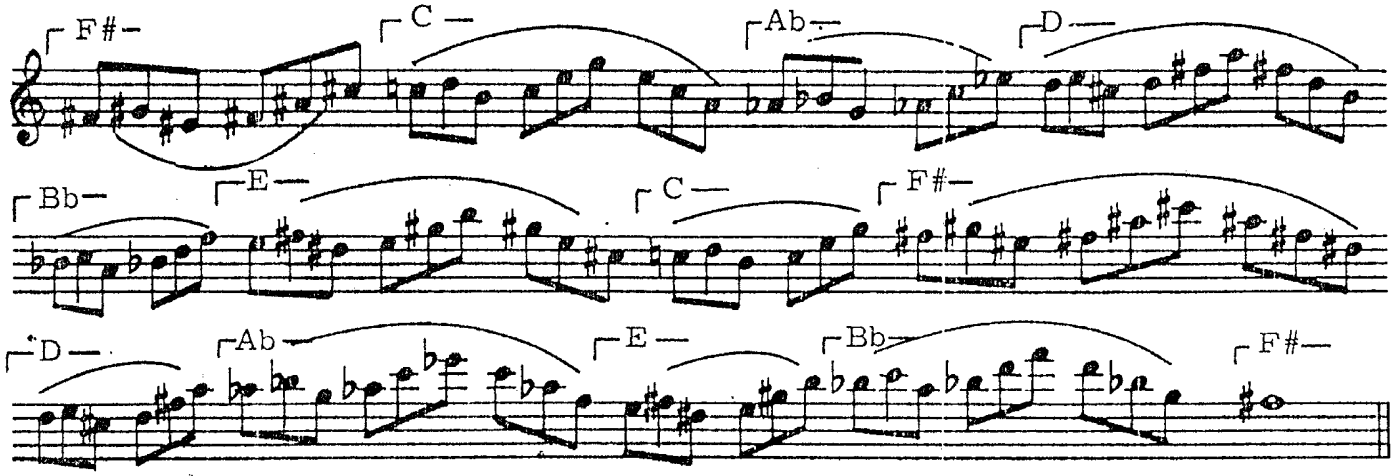

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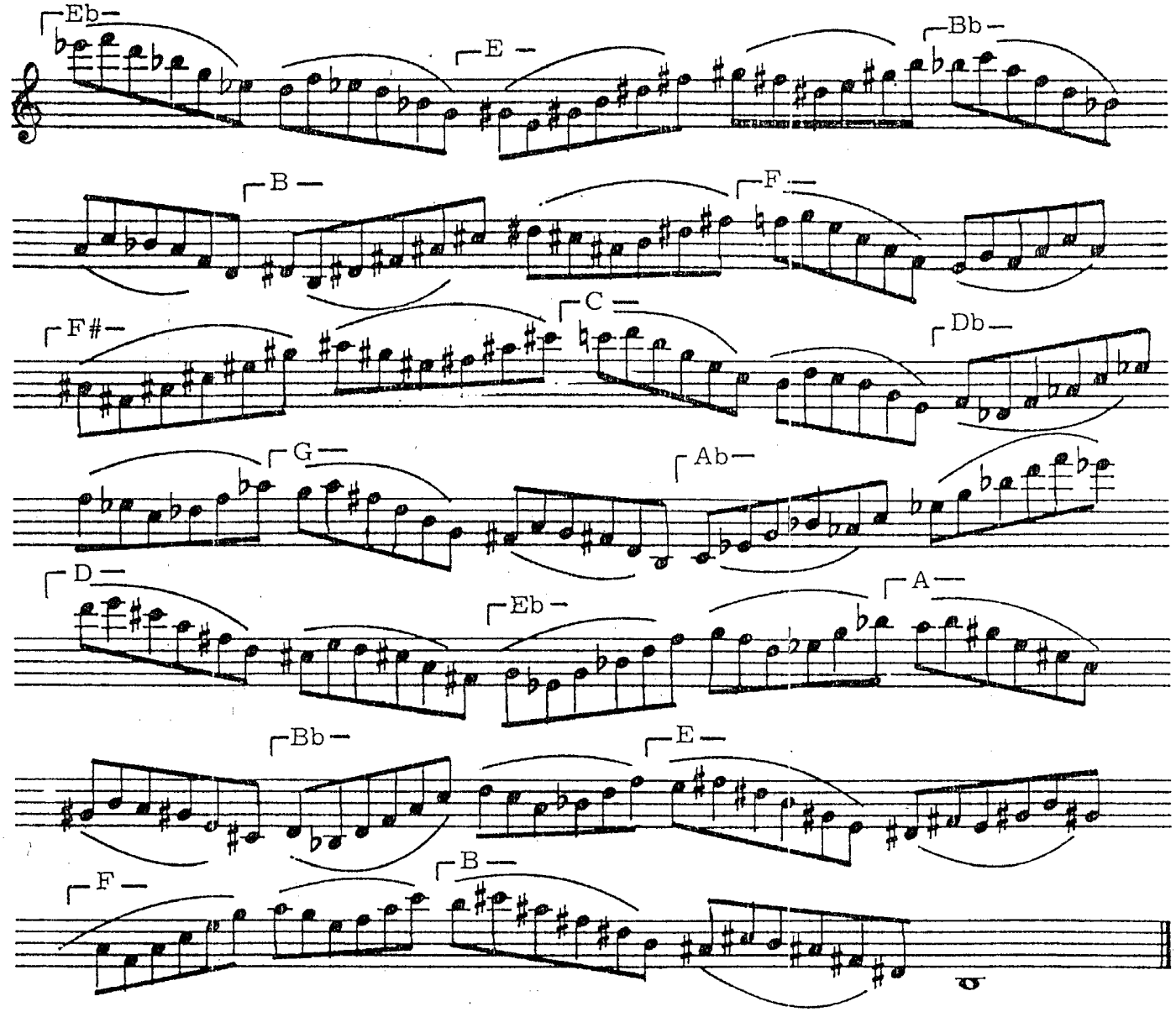
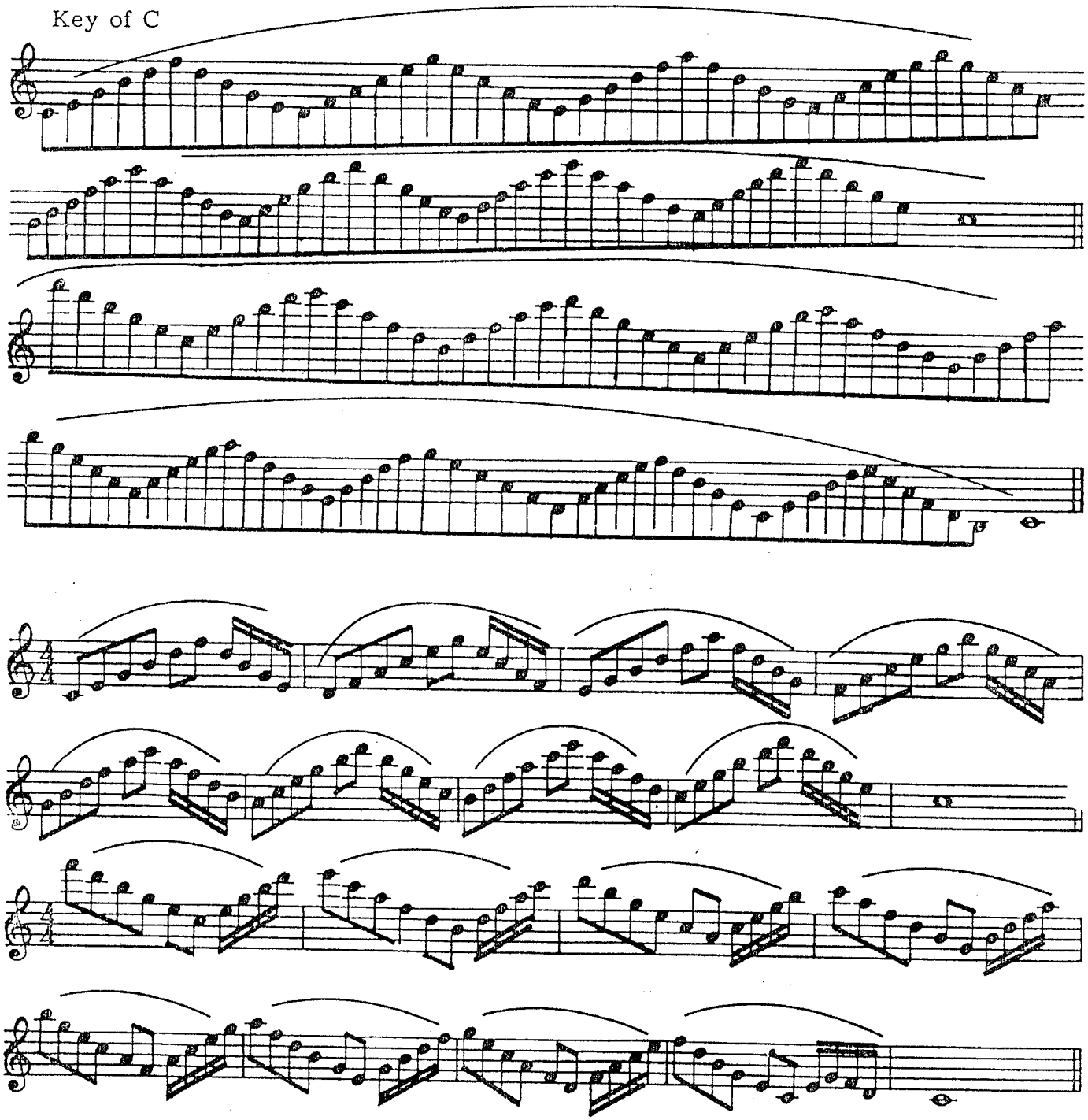


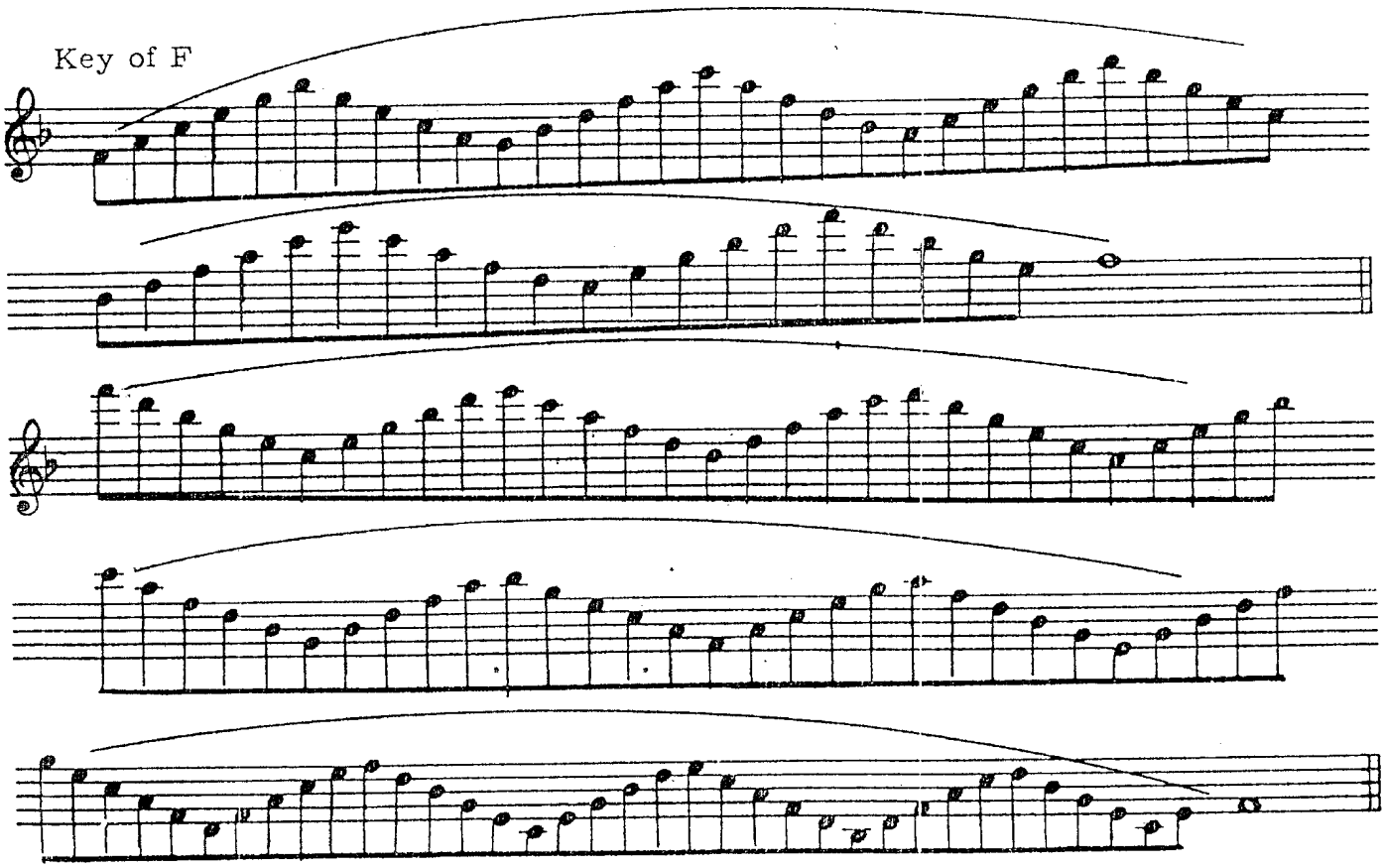
Section VI

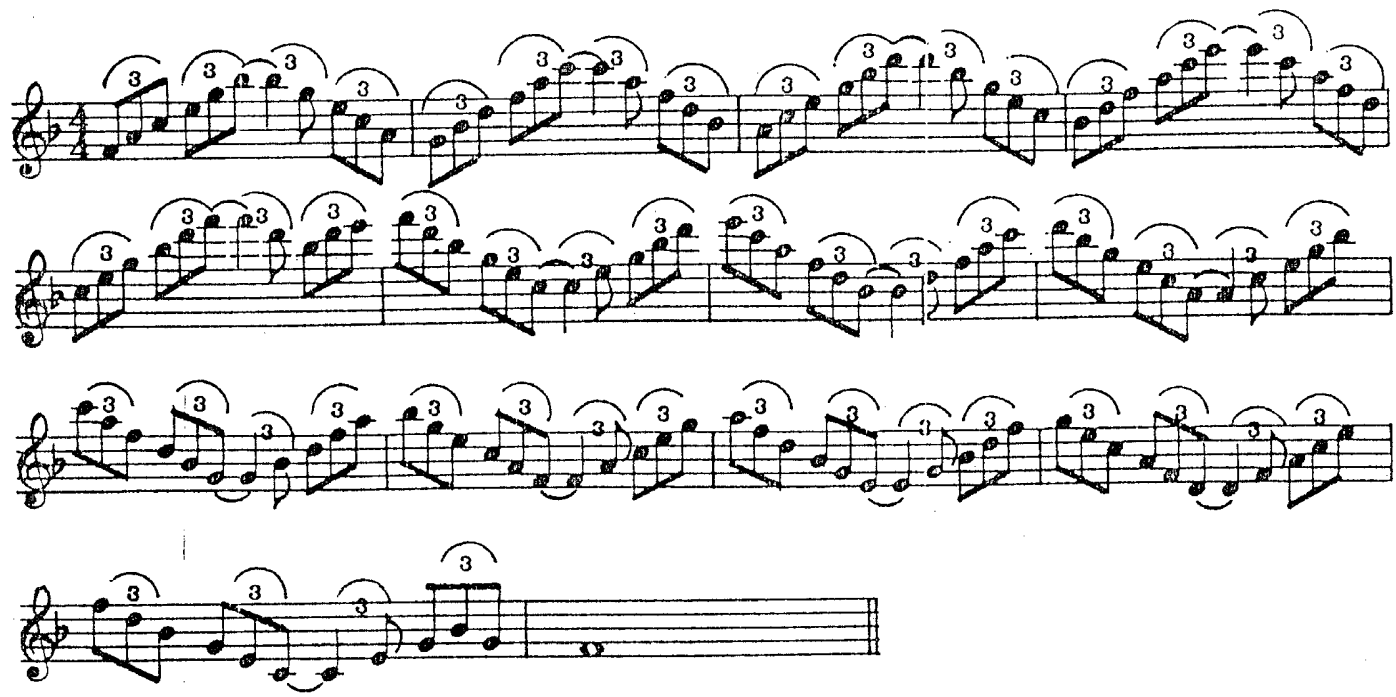
HEXADS - TONAL VARIATIONS

167 Key of C

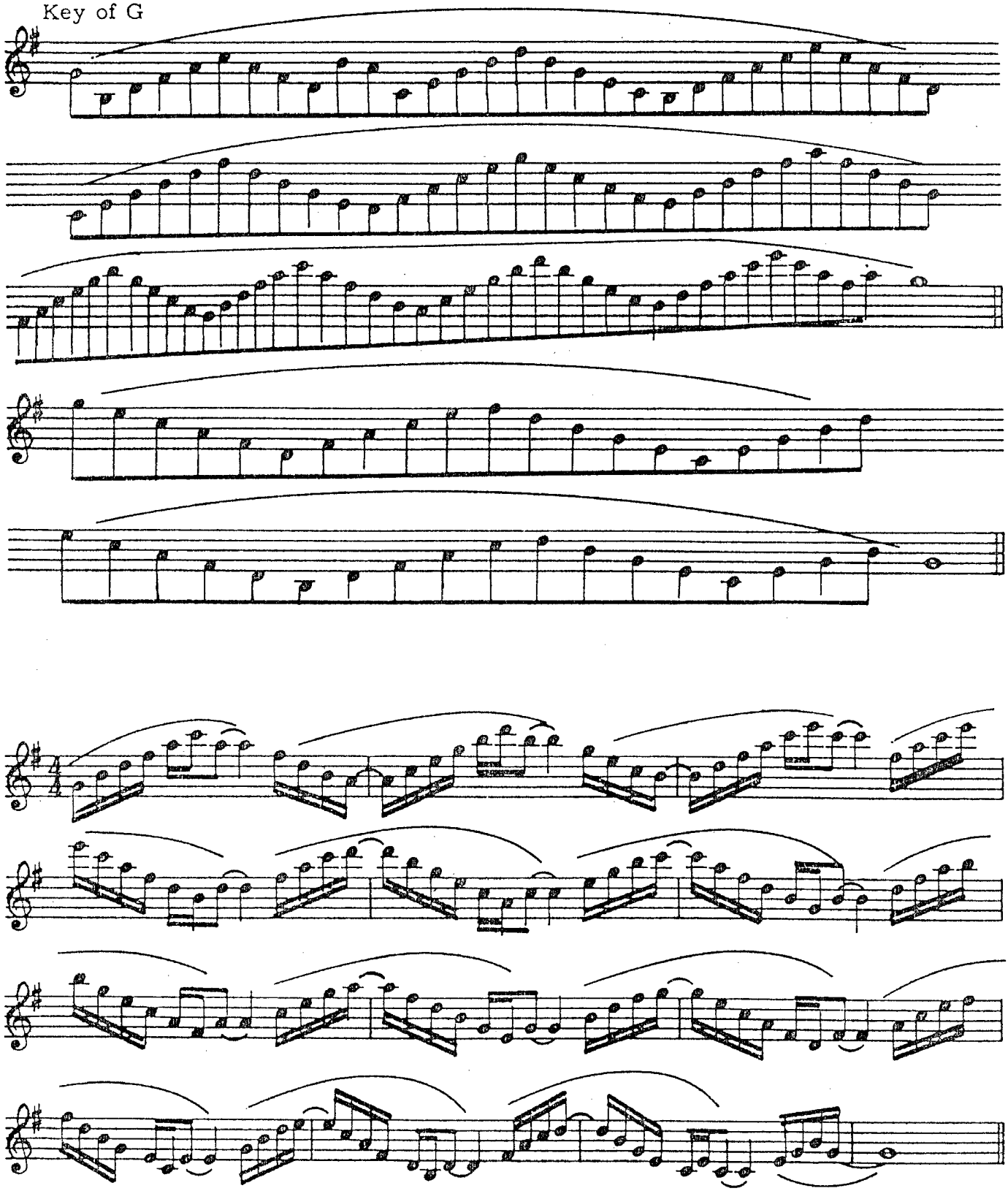


168 Key of F

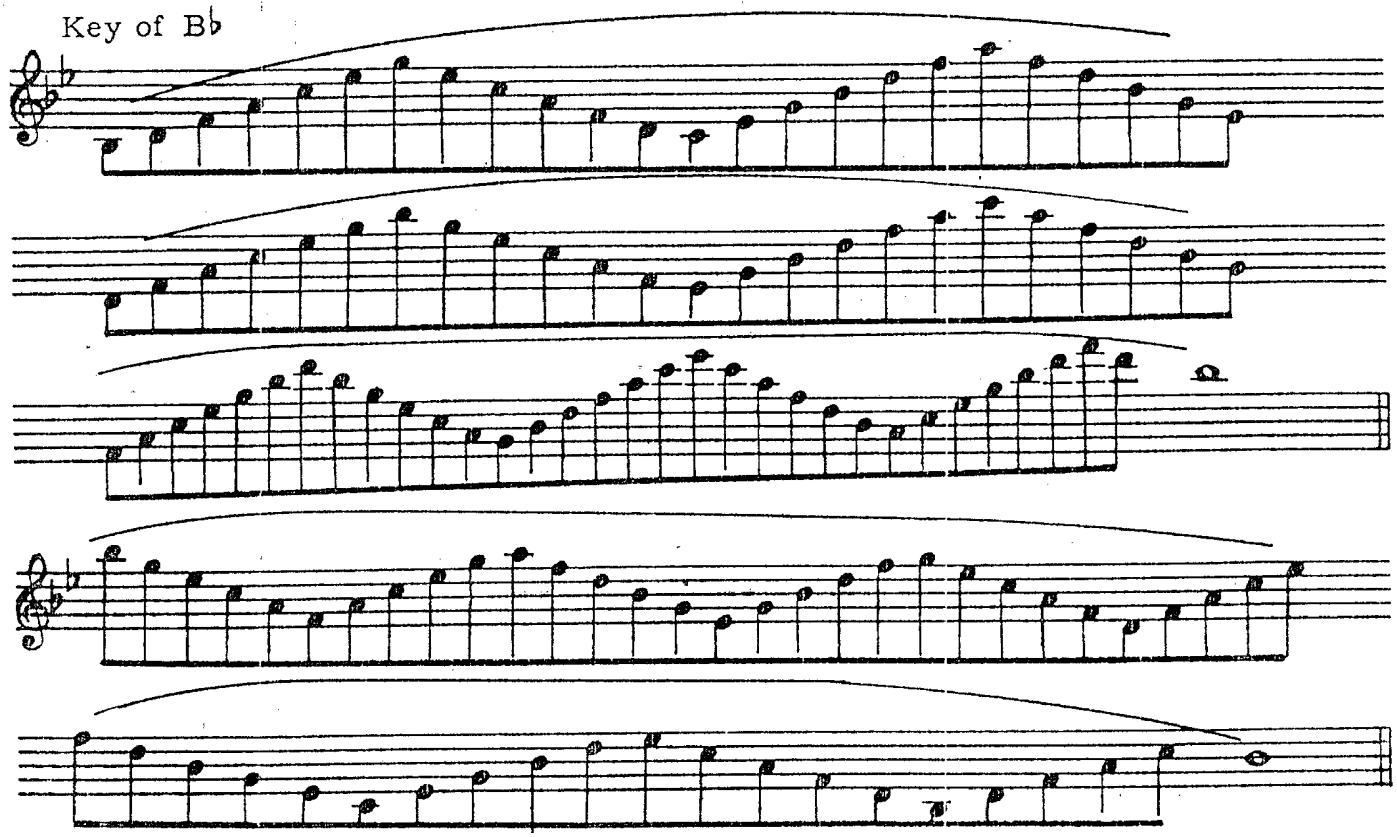


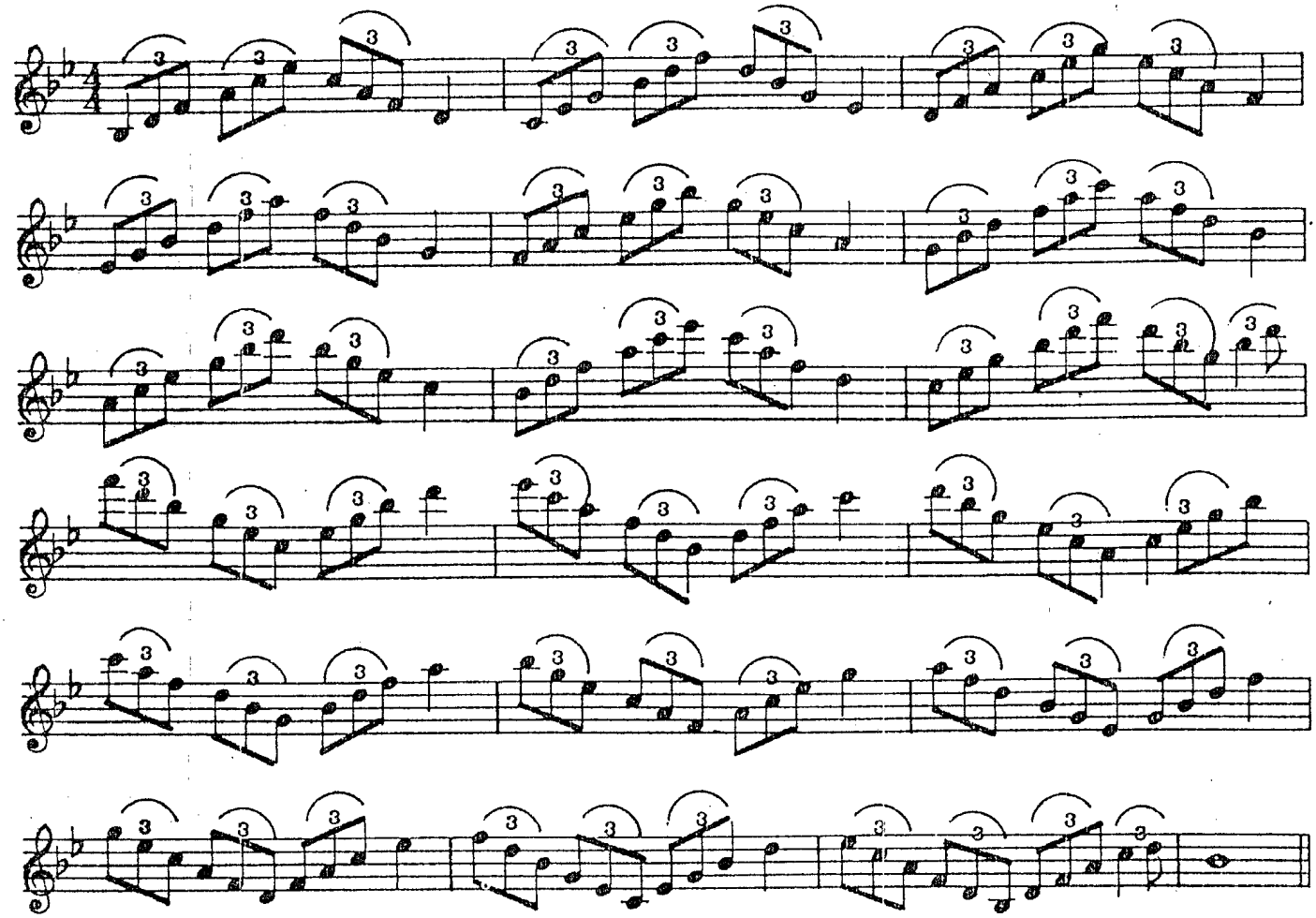


169 Key of G

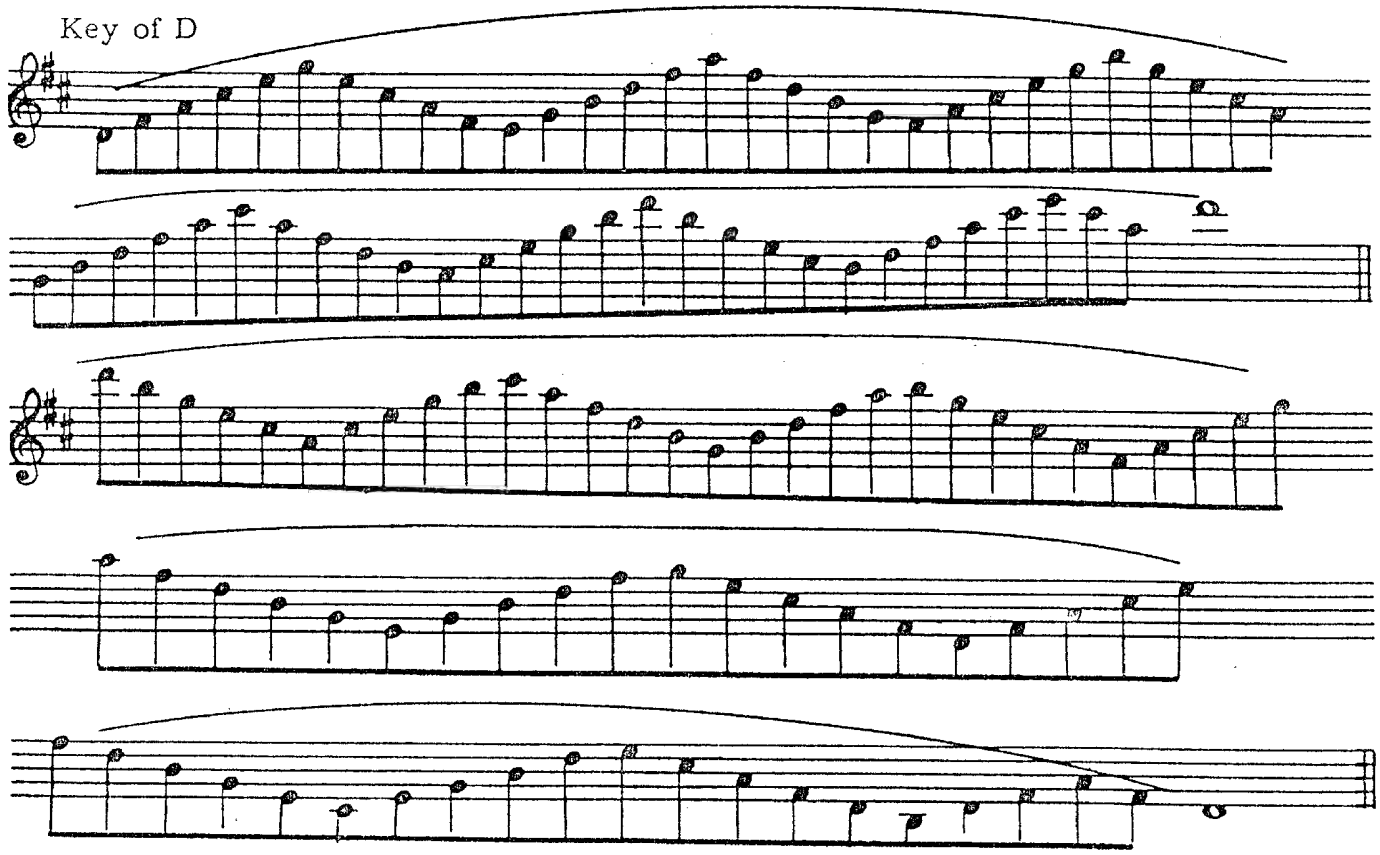


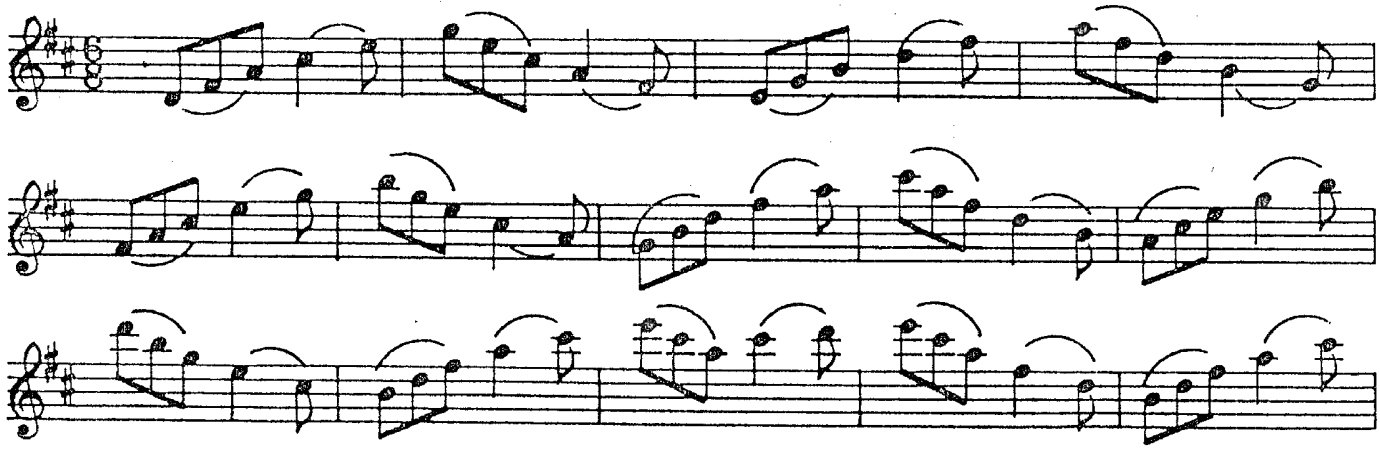
170 Key of B♭

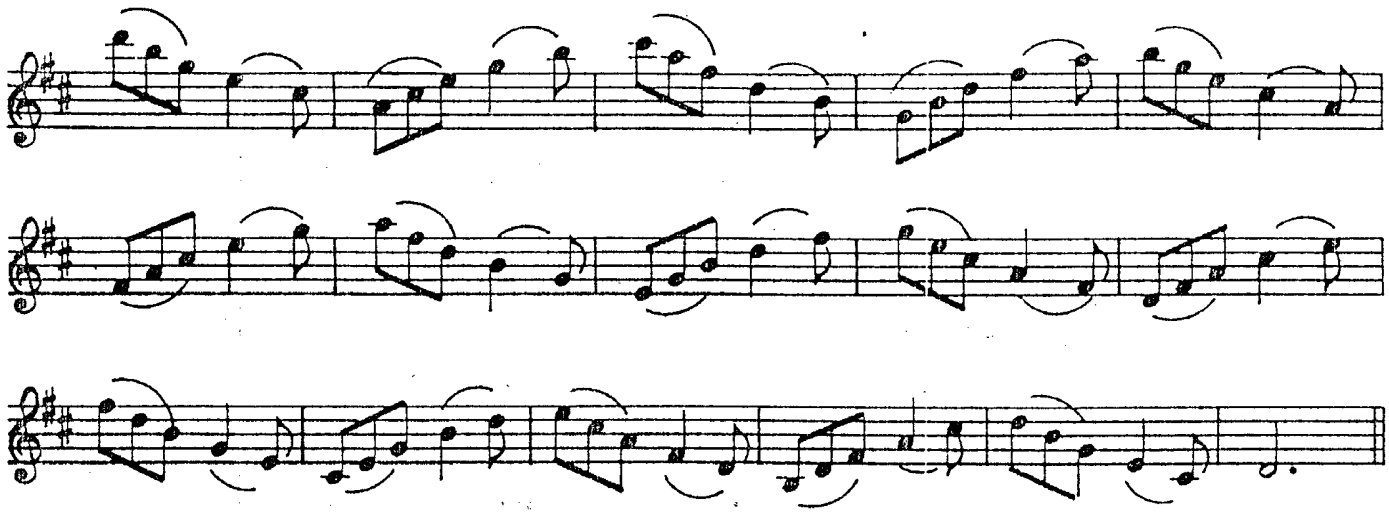




171 Key of D

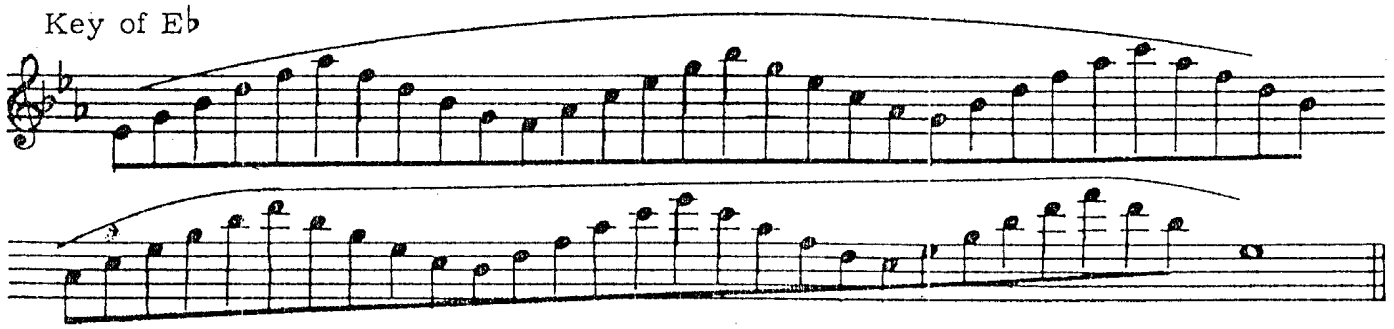


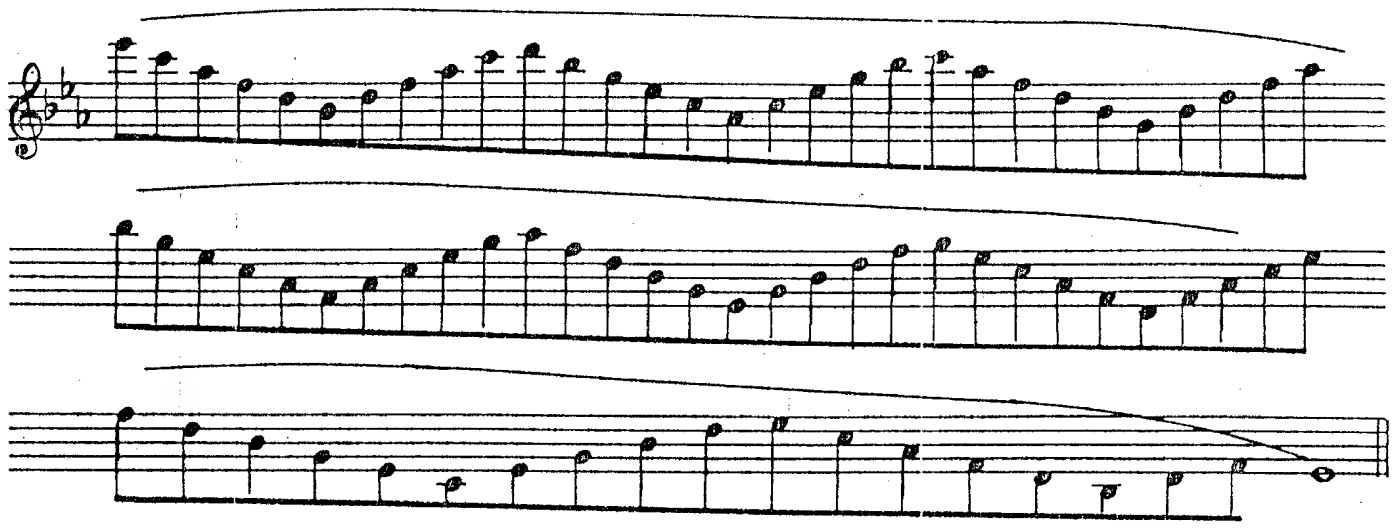


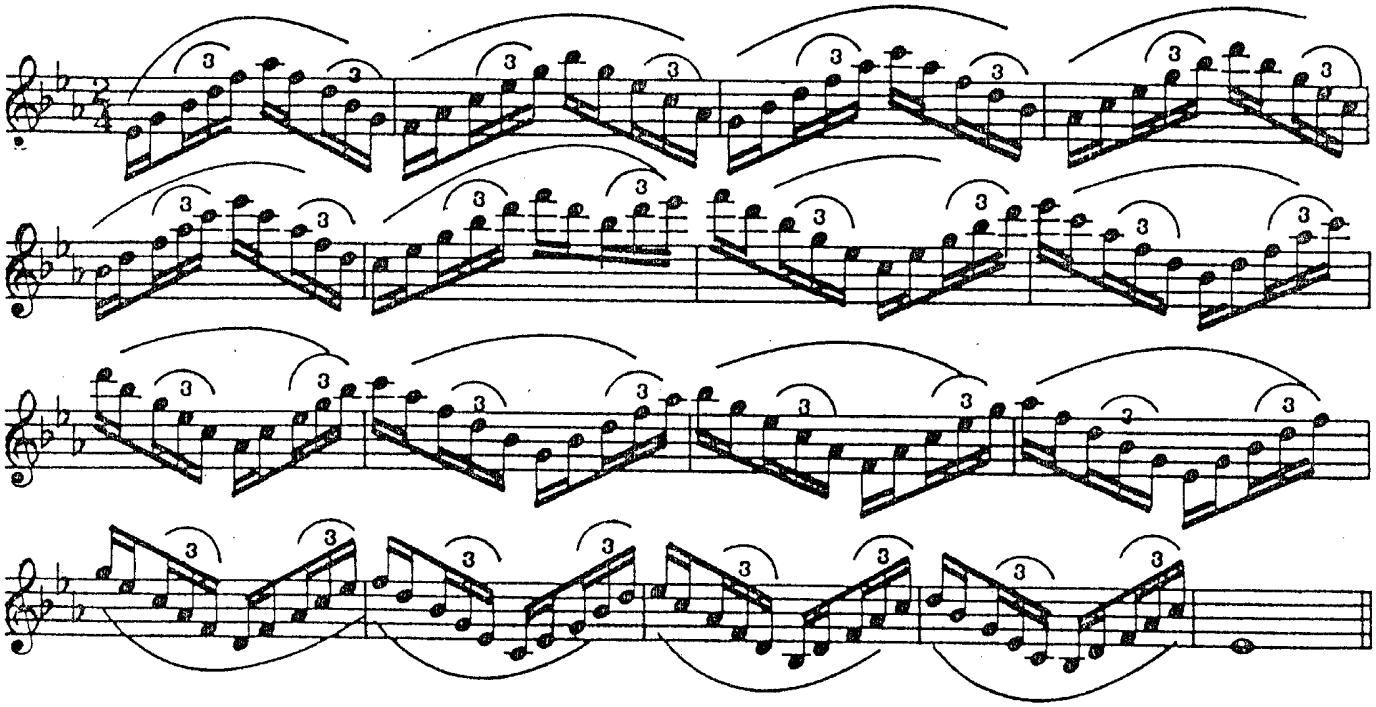


172

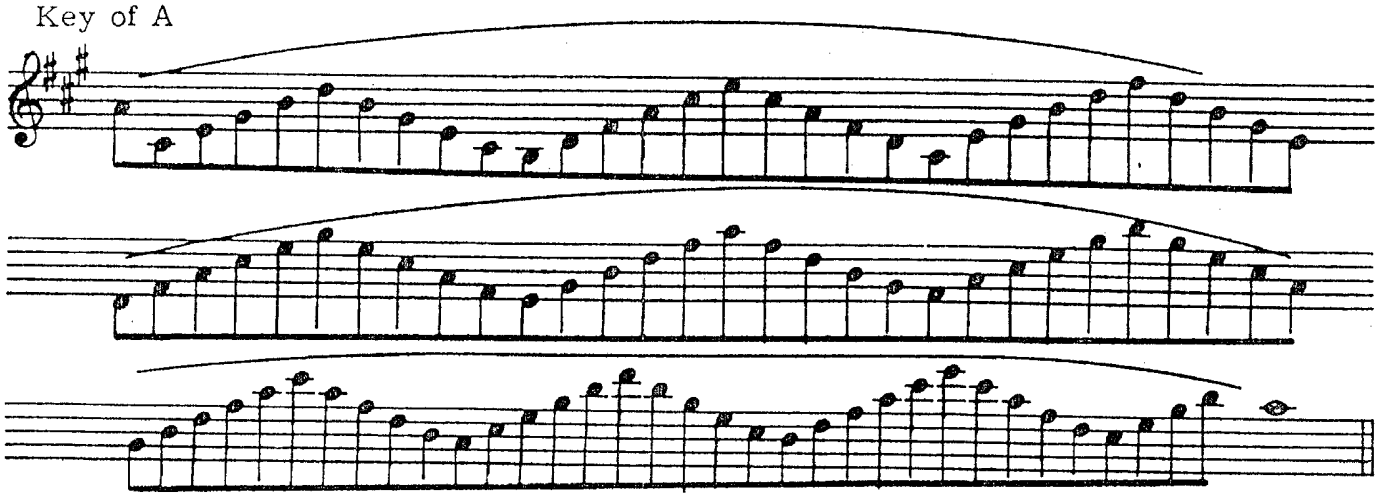
Key of Eb

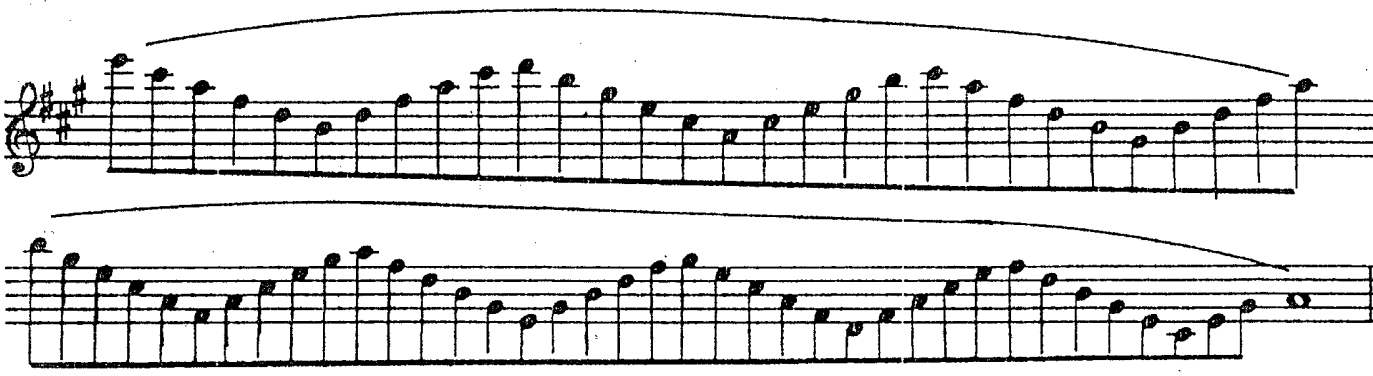


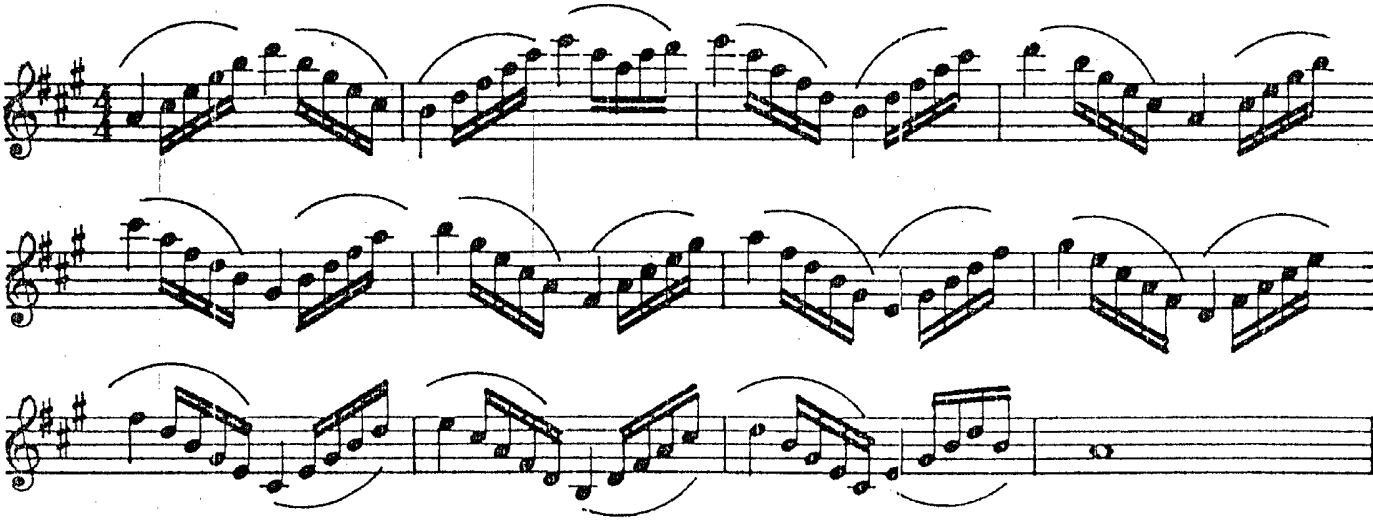




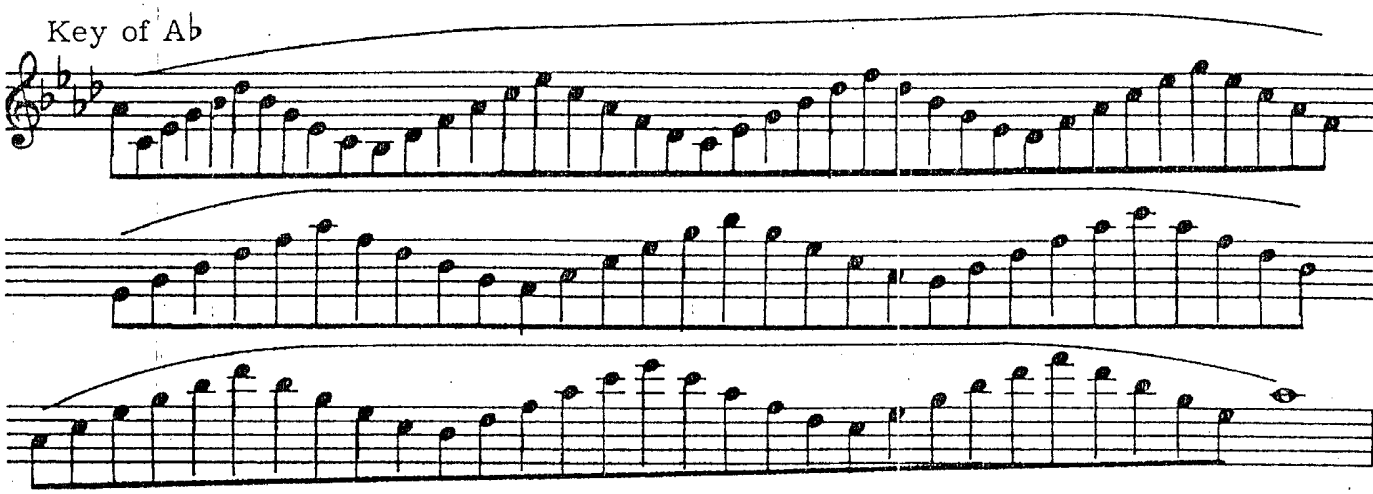
173 Key of A

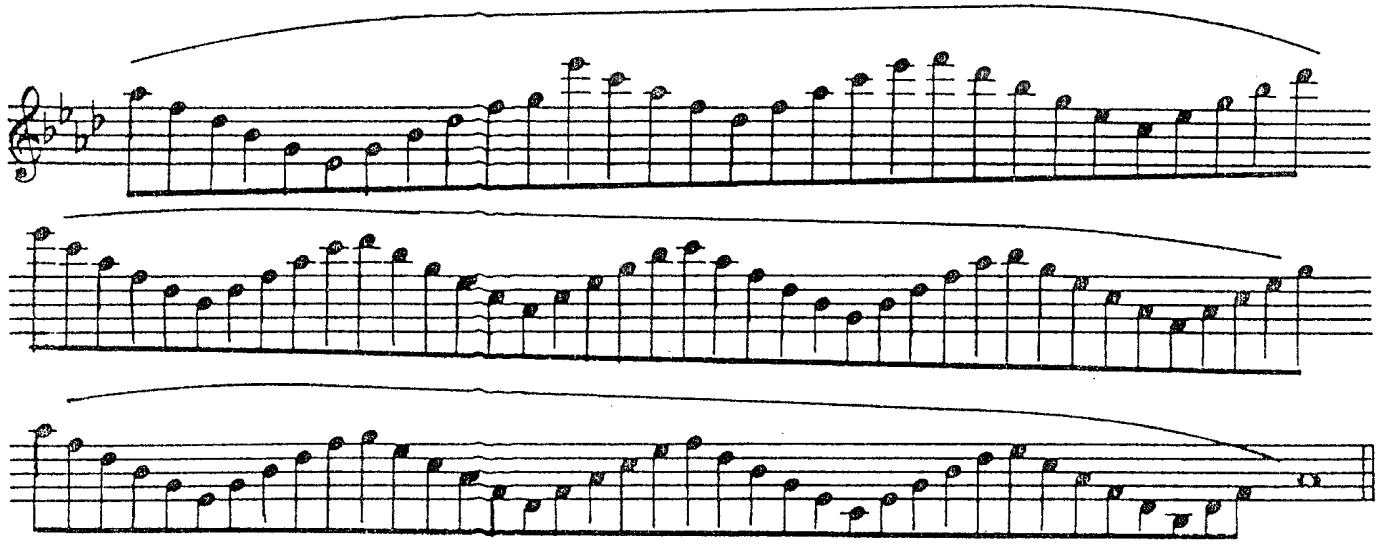


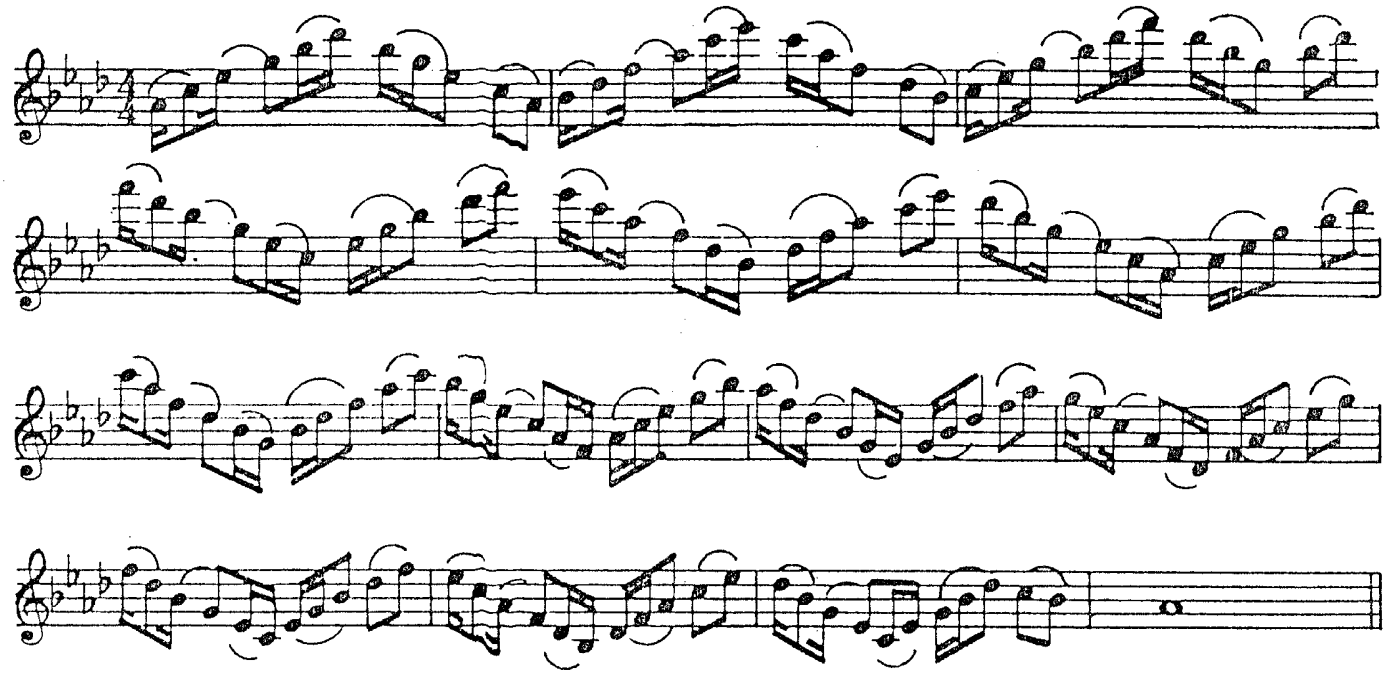




174 Key of Ab

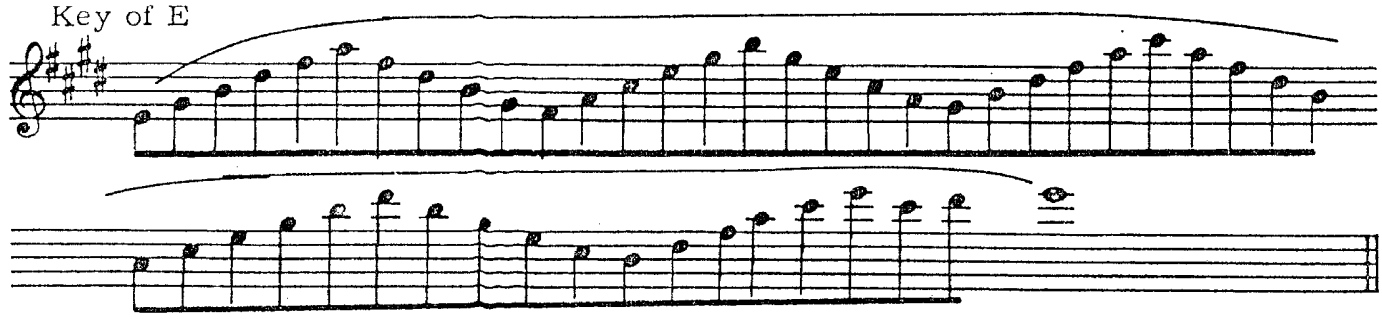


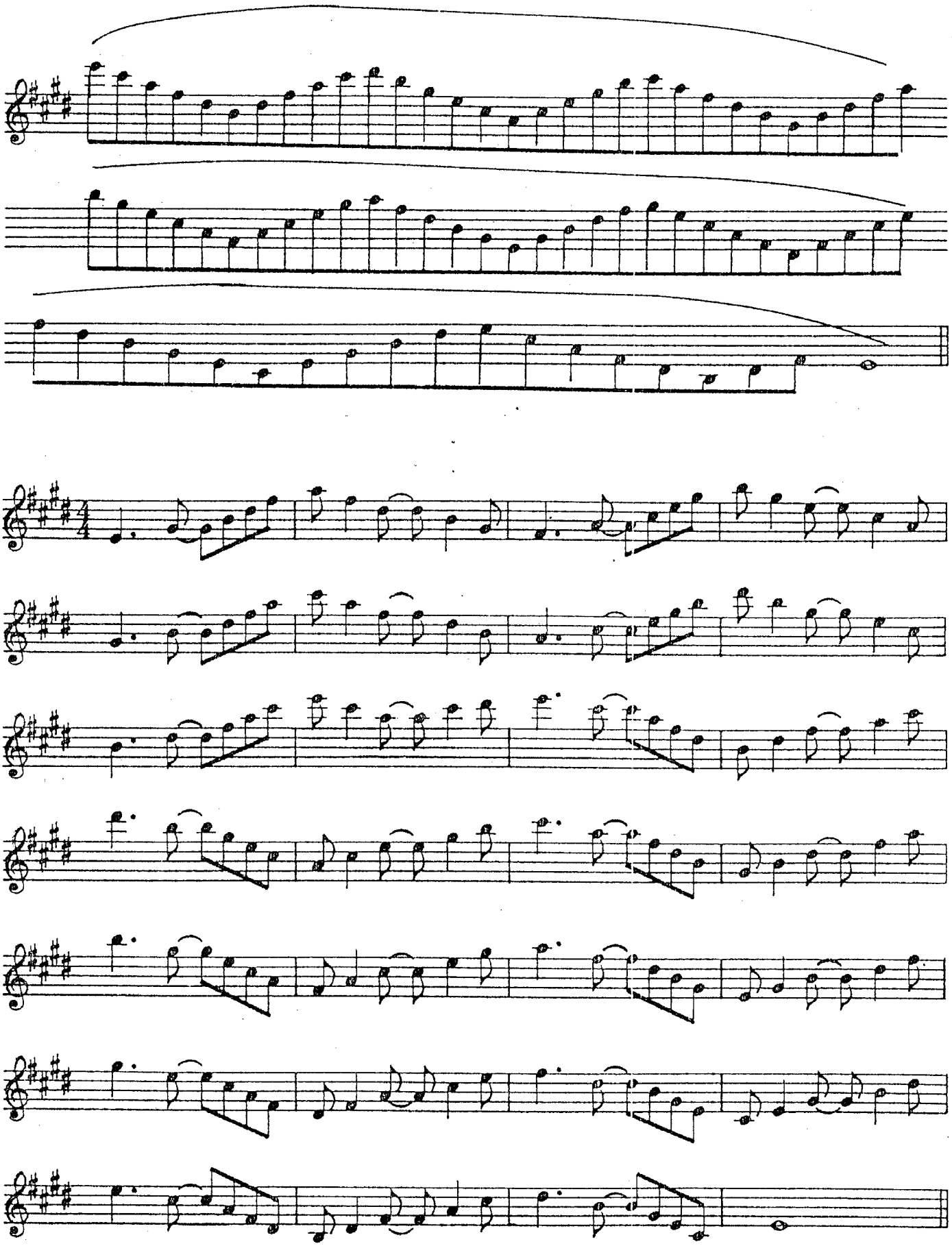




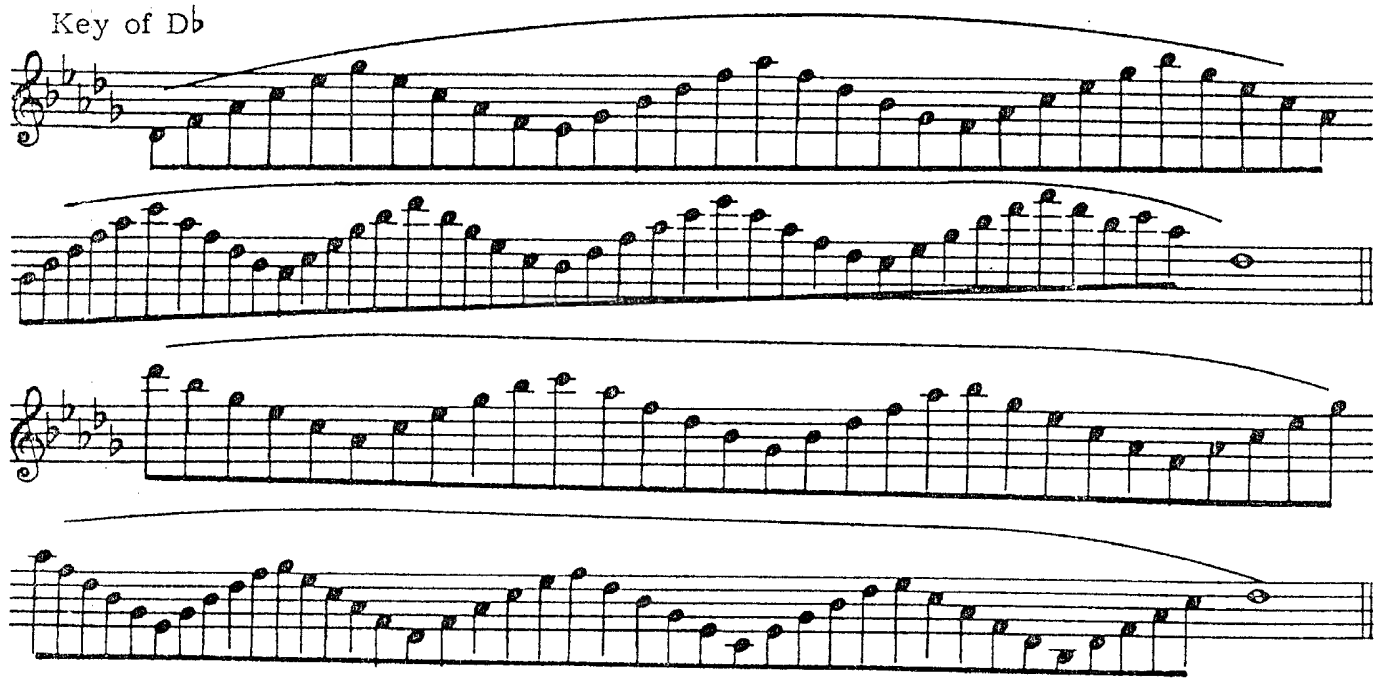
175

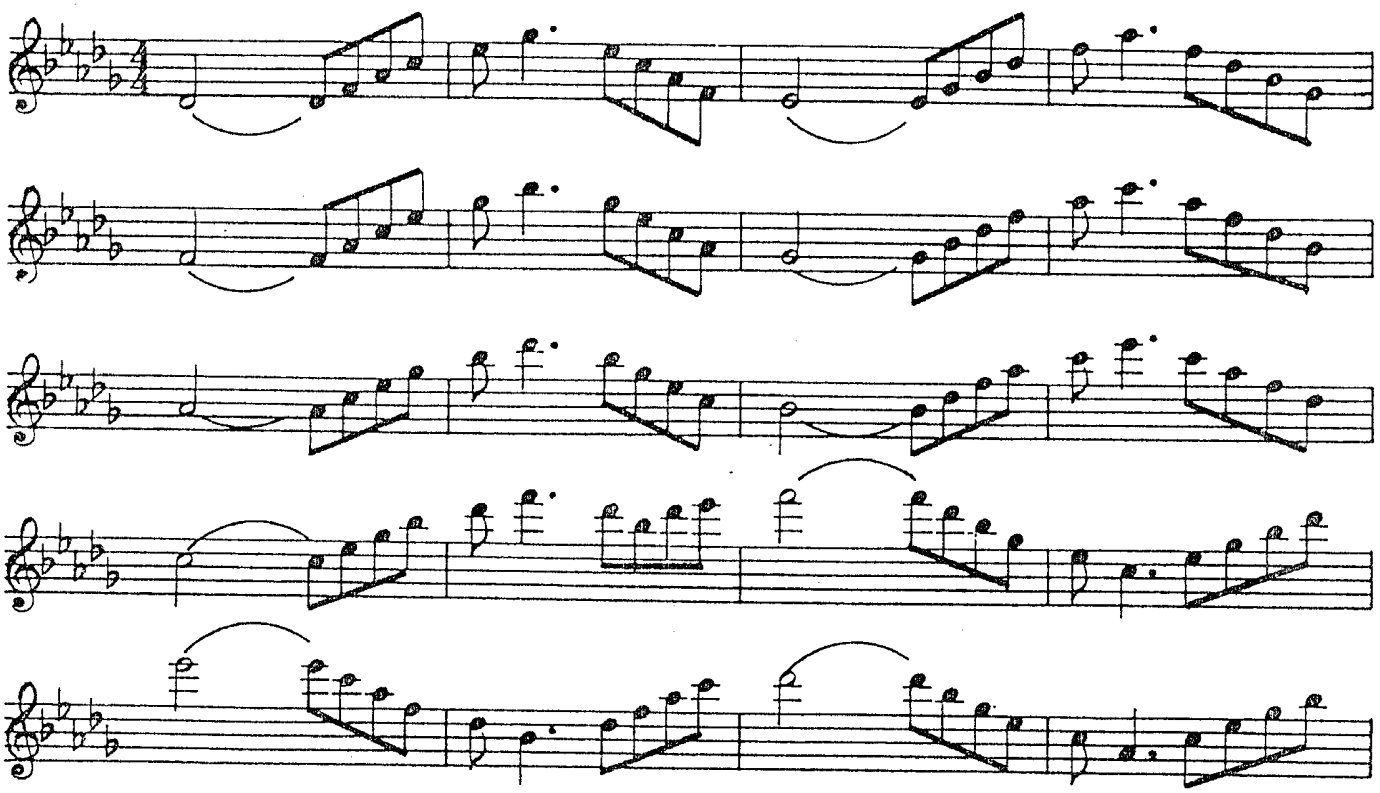
Key of E

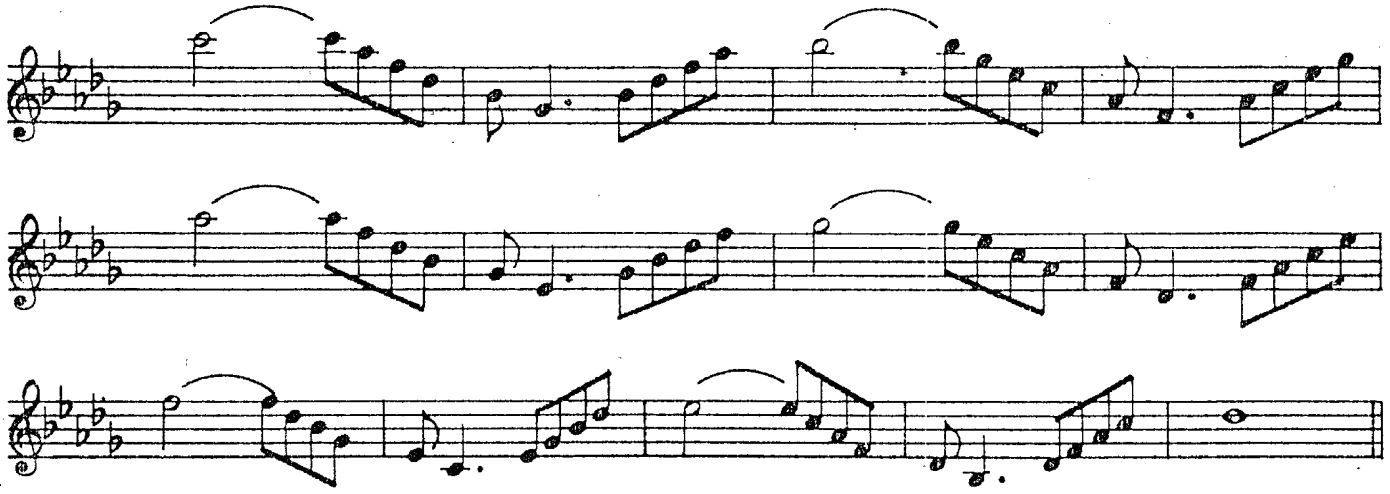




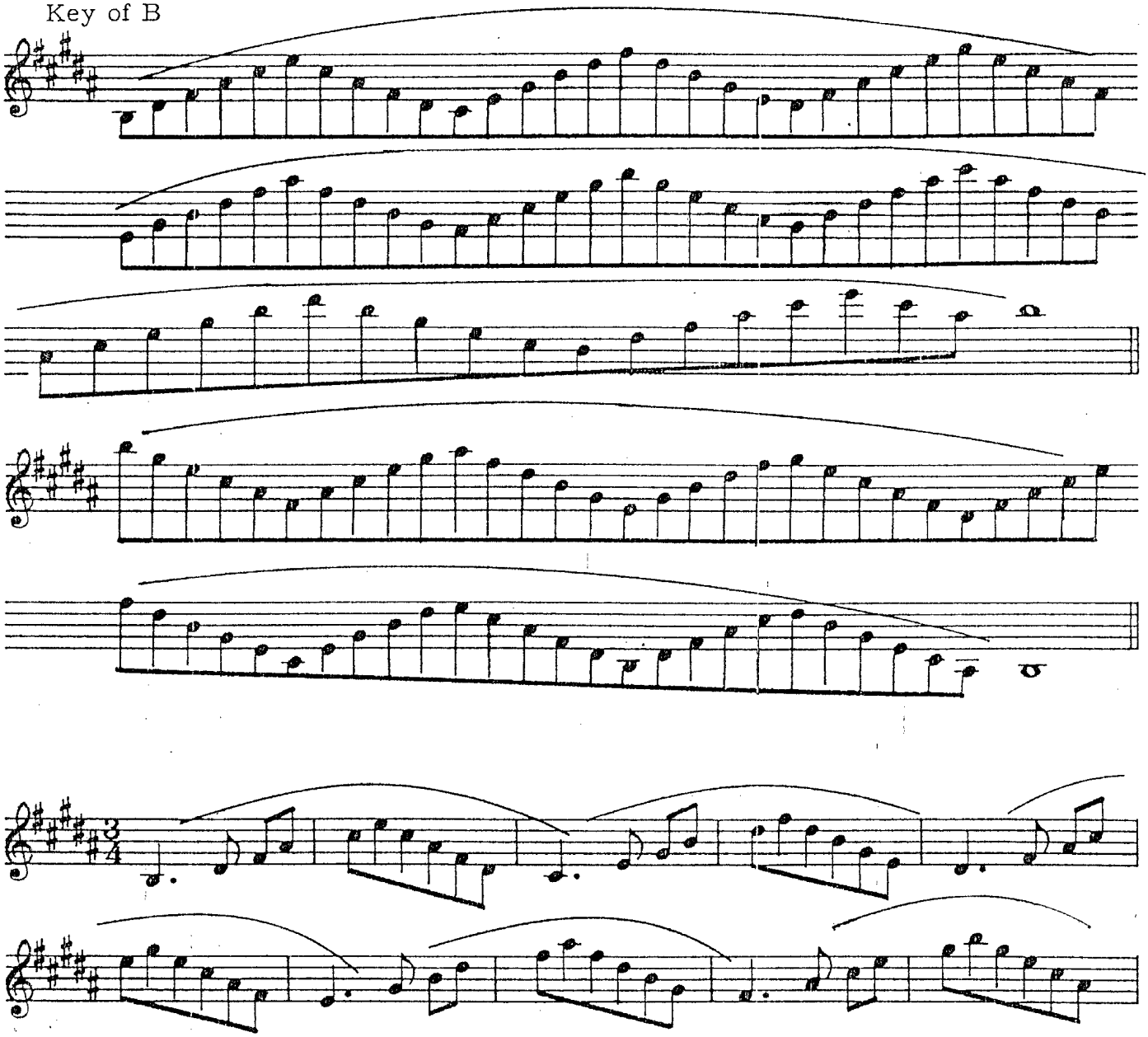
176 Key of D♭

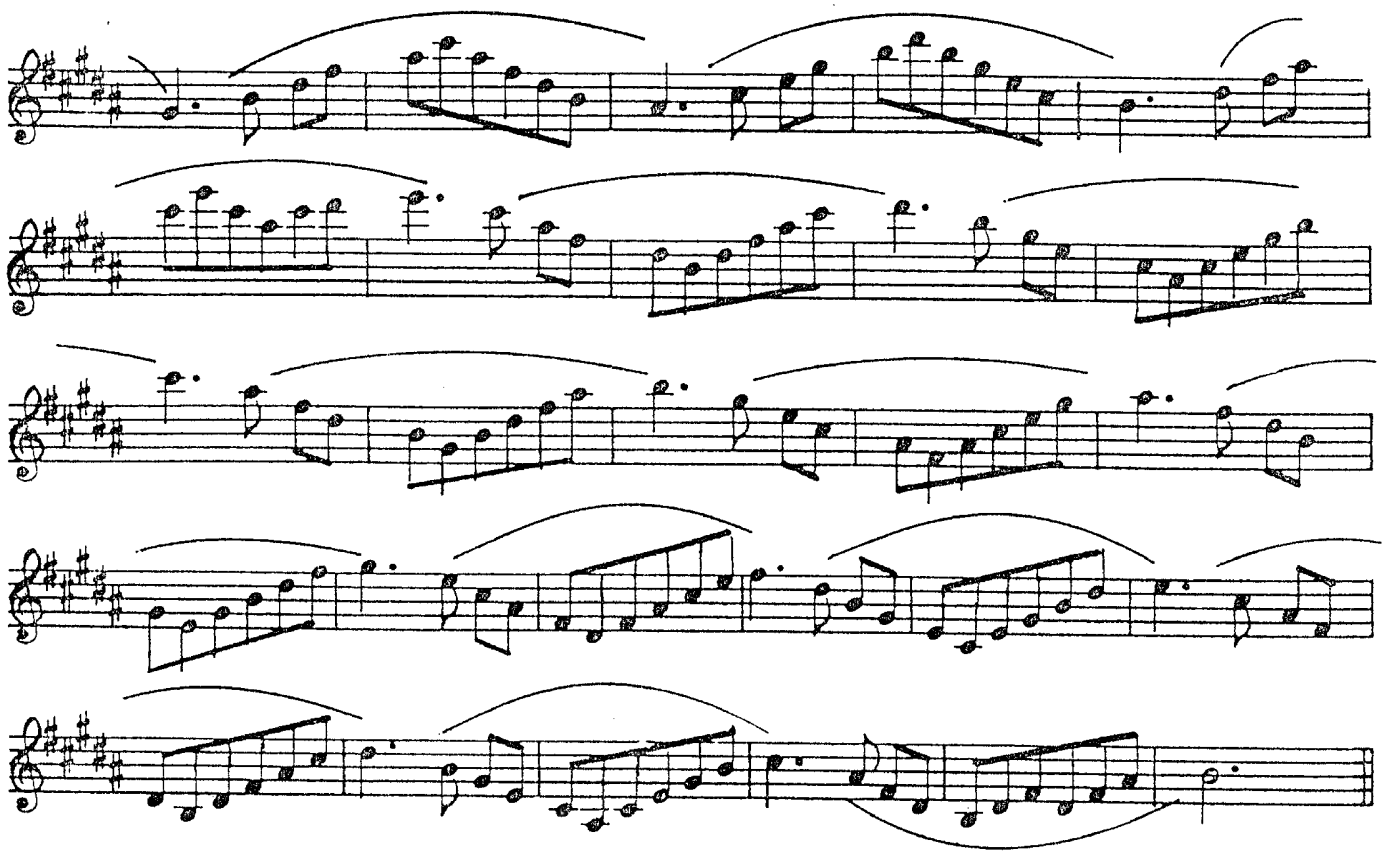






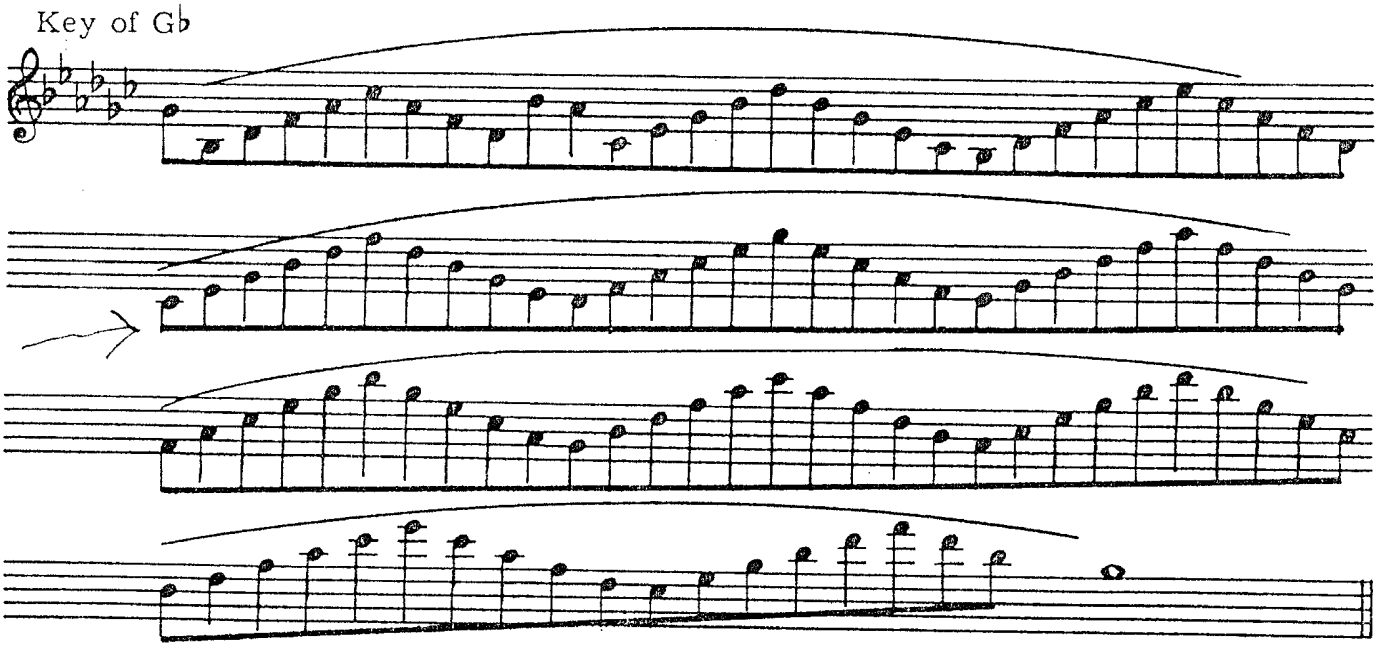
177 Key of B

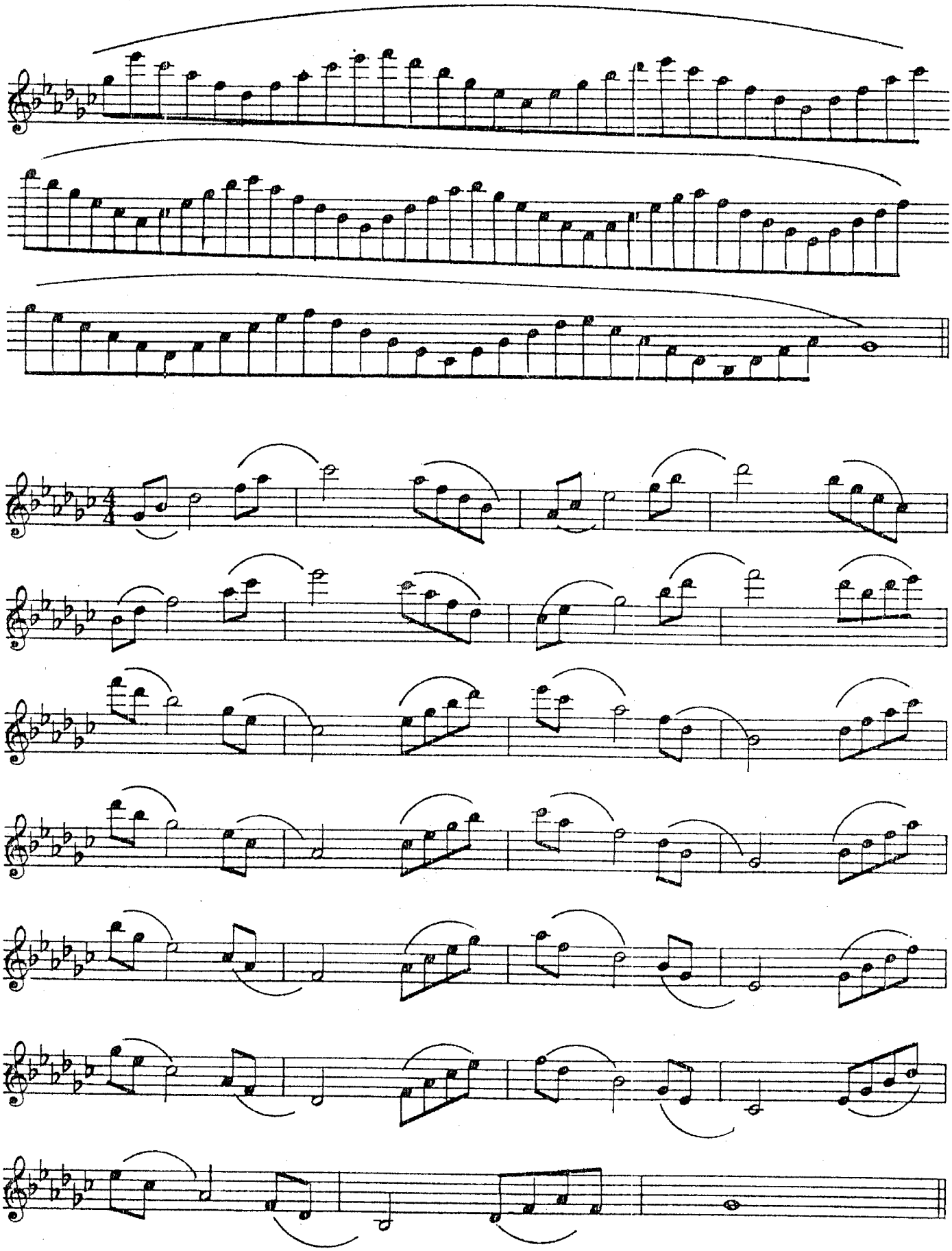




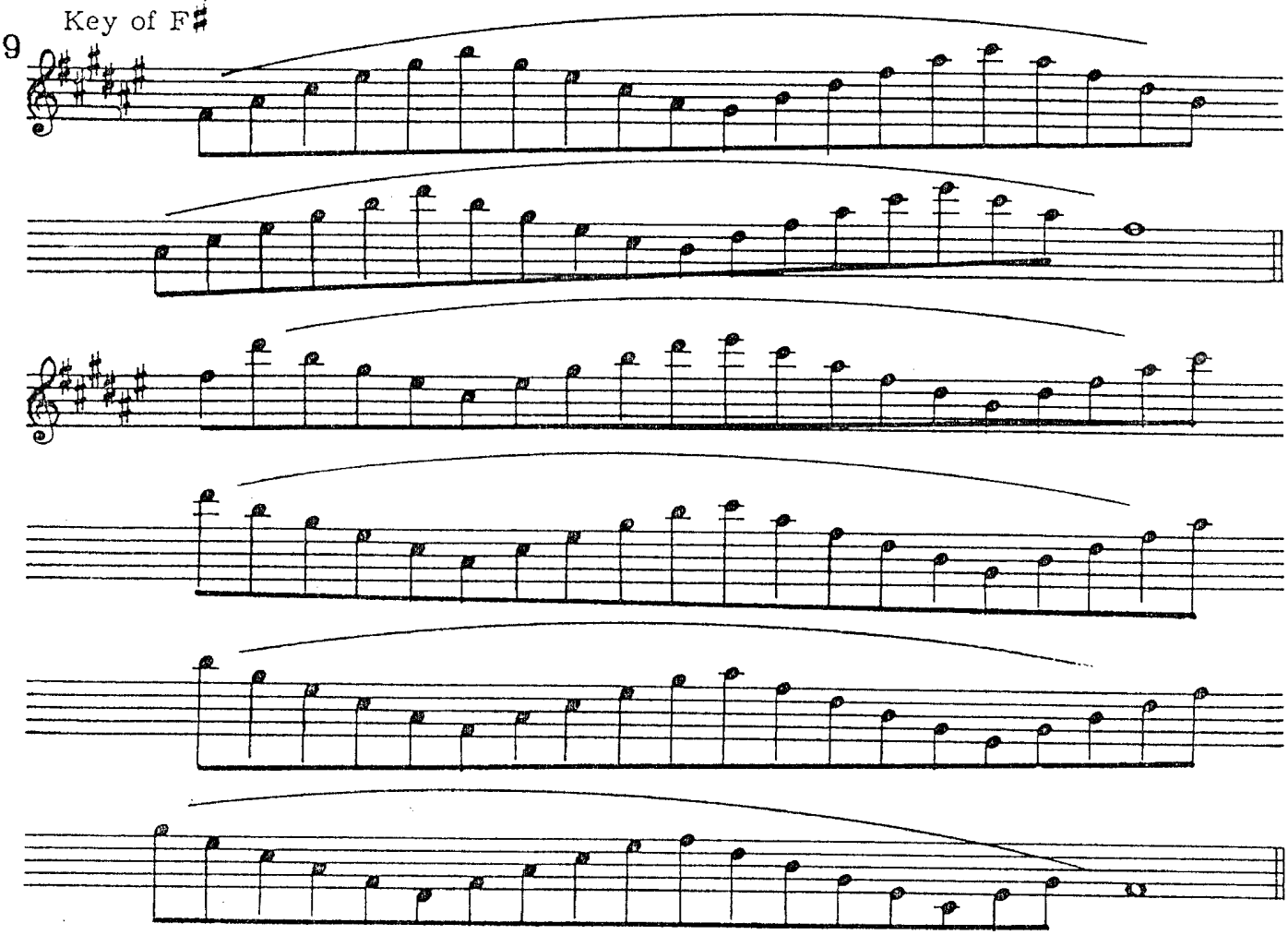
178

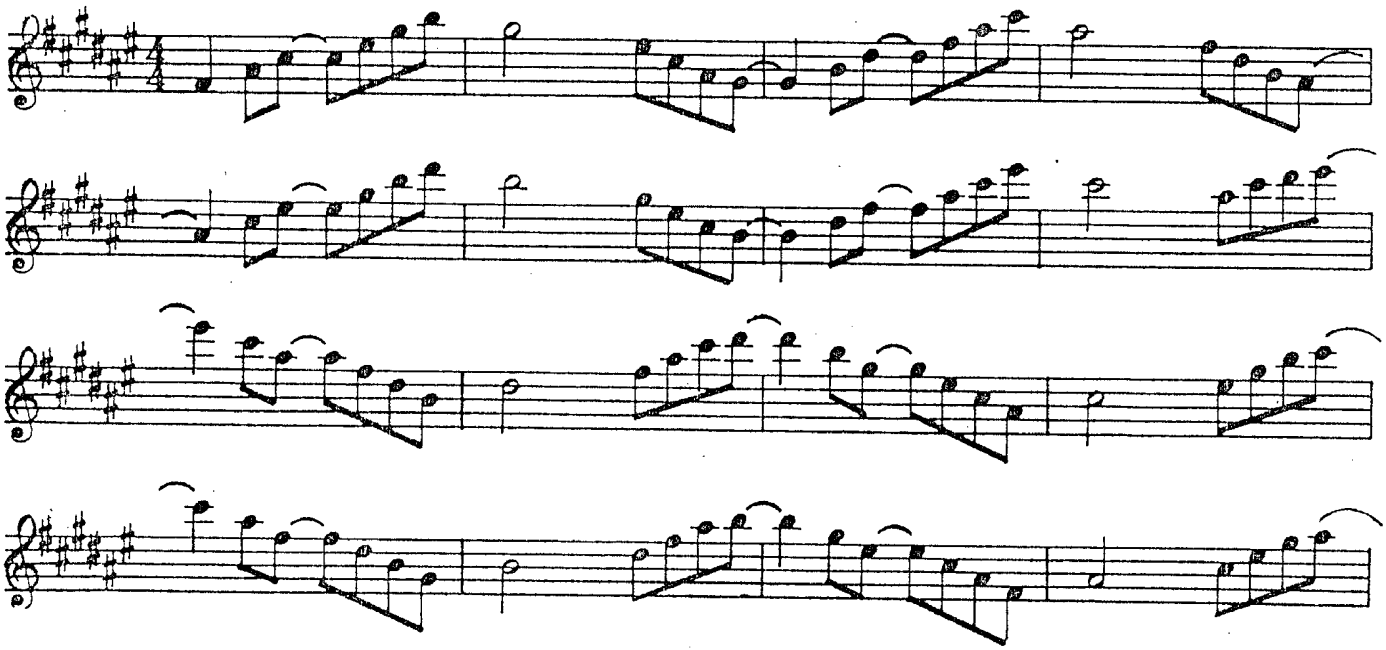
Key of Gb

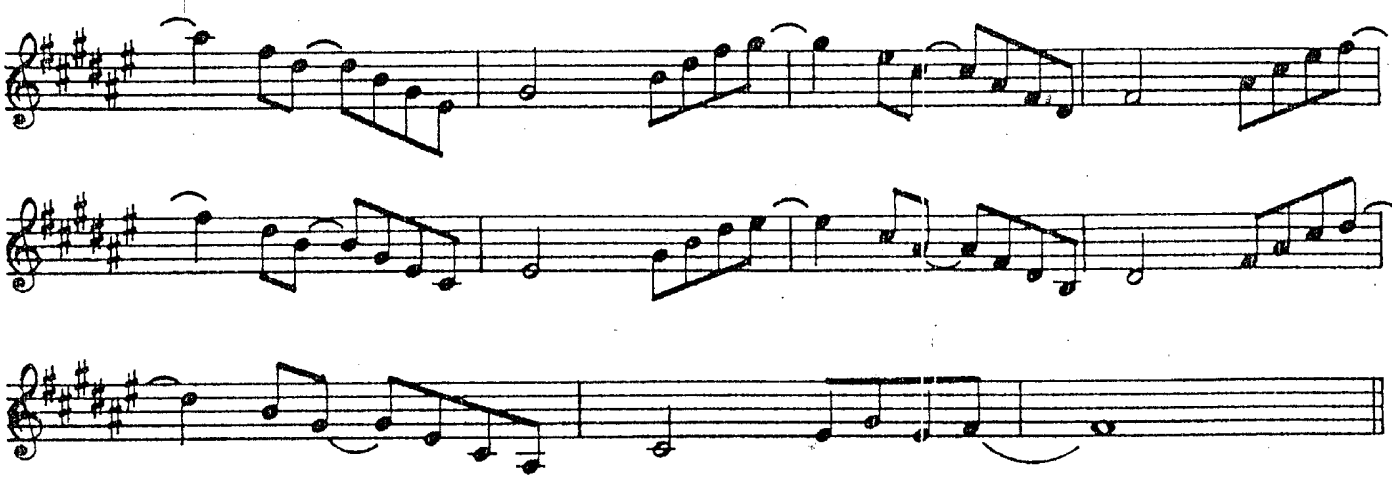




179 Key of F♯

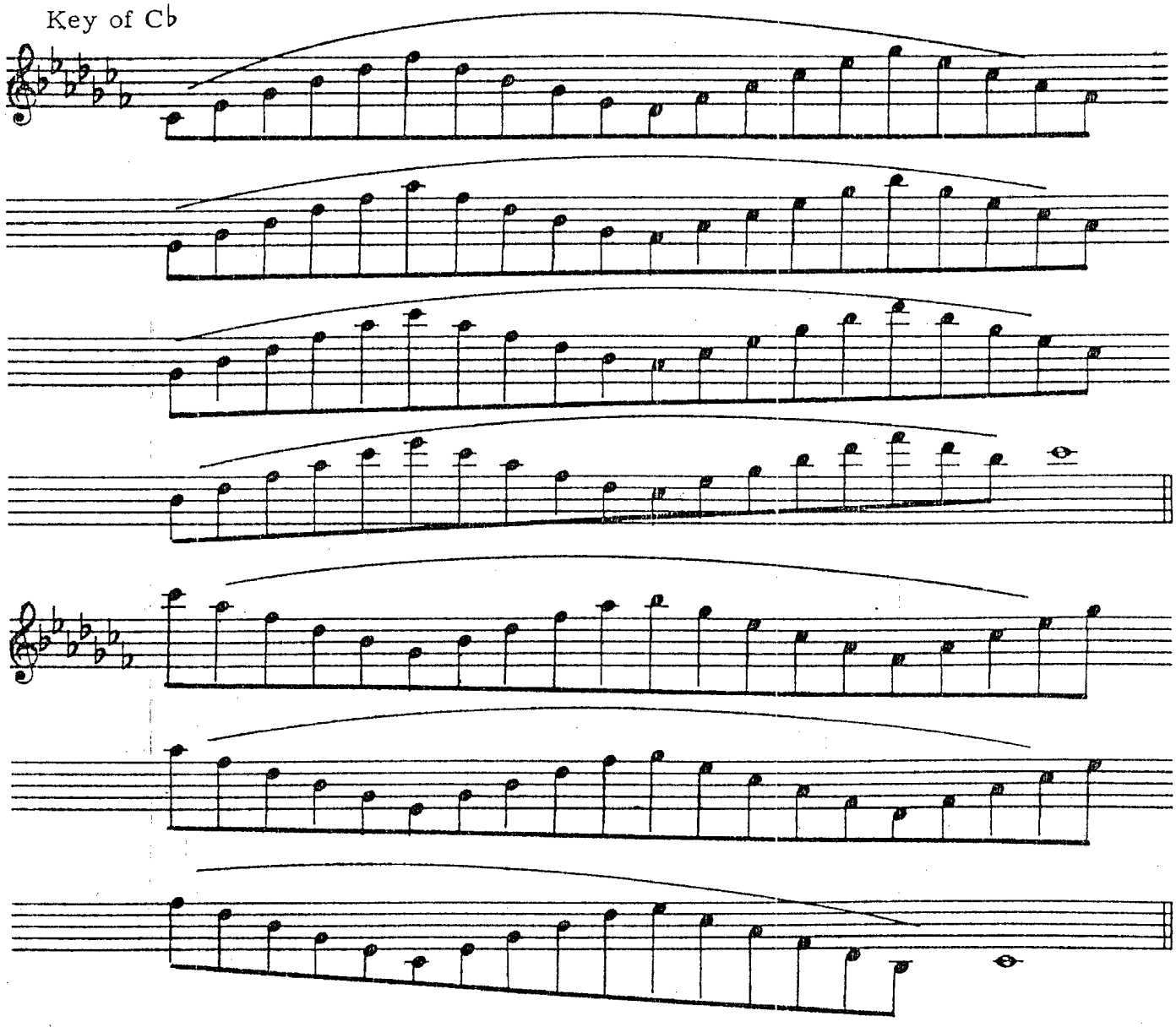


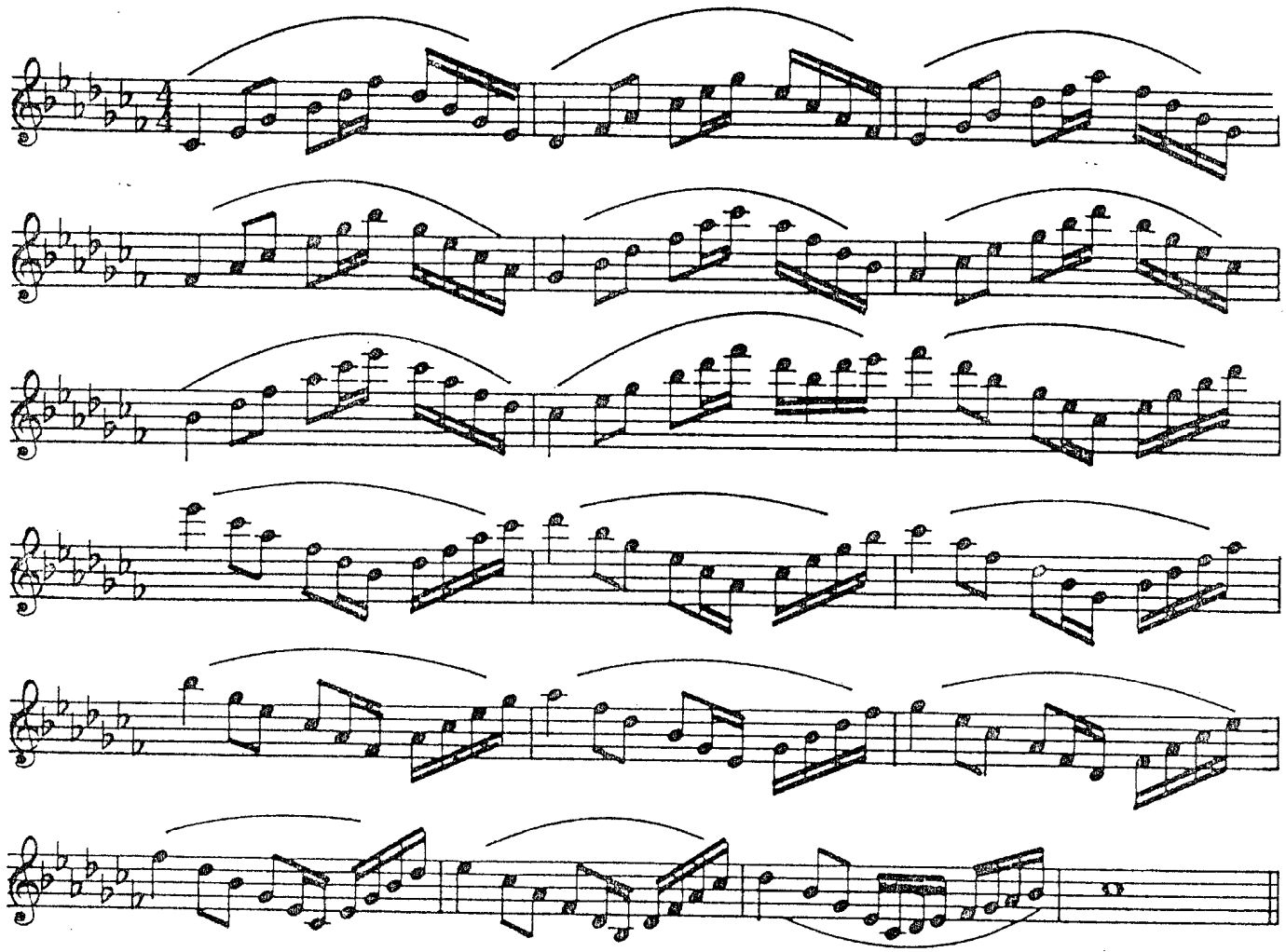




180

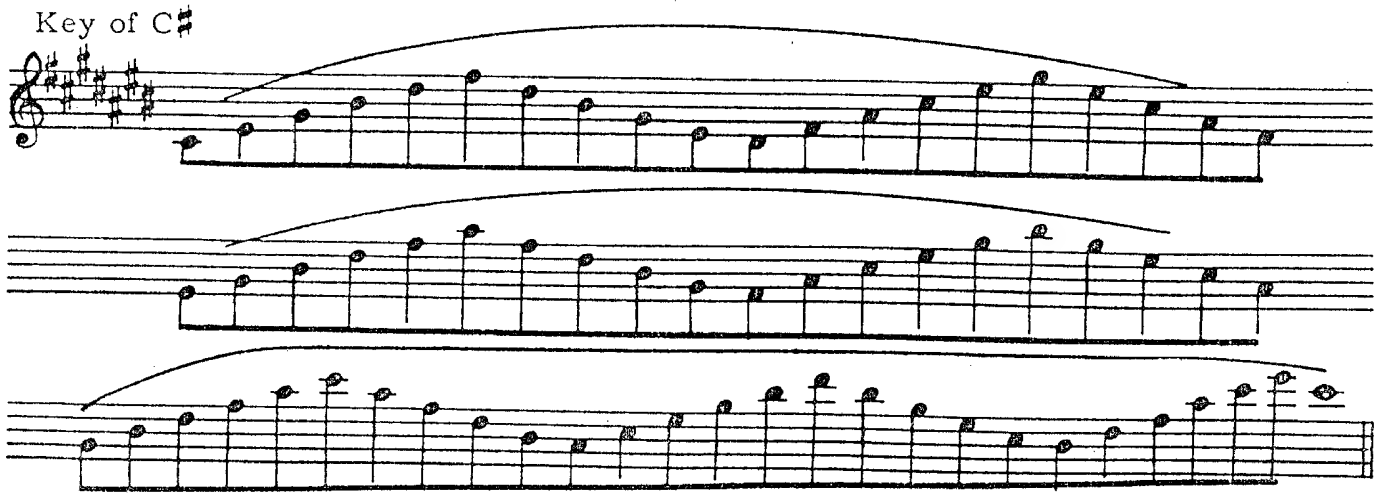
Key of C♭

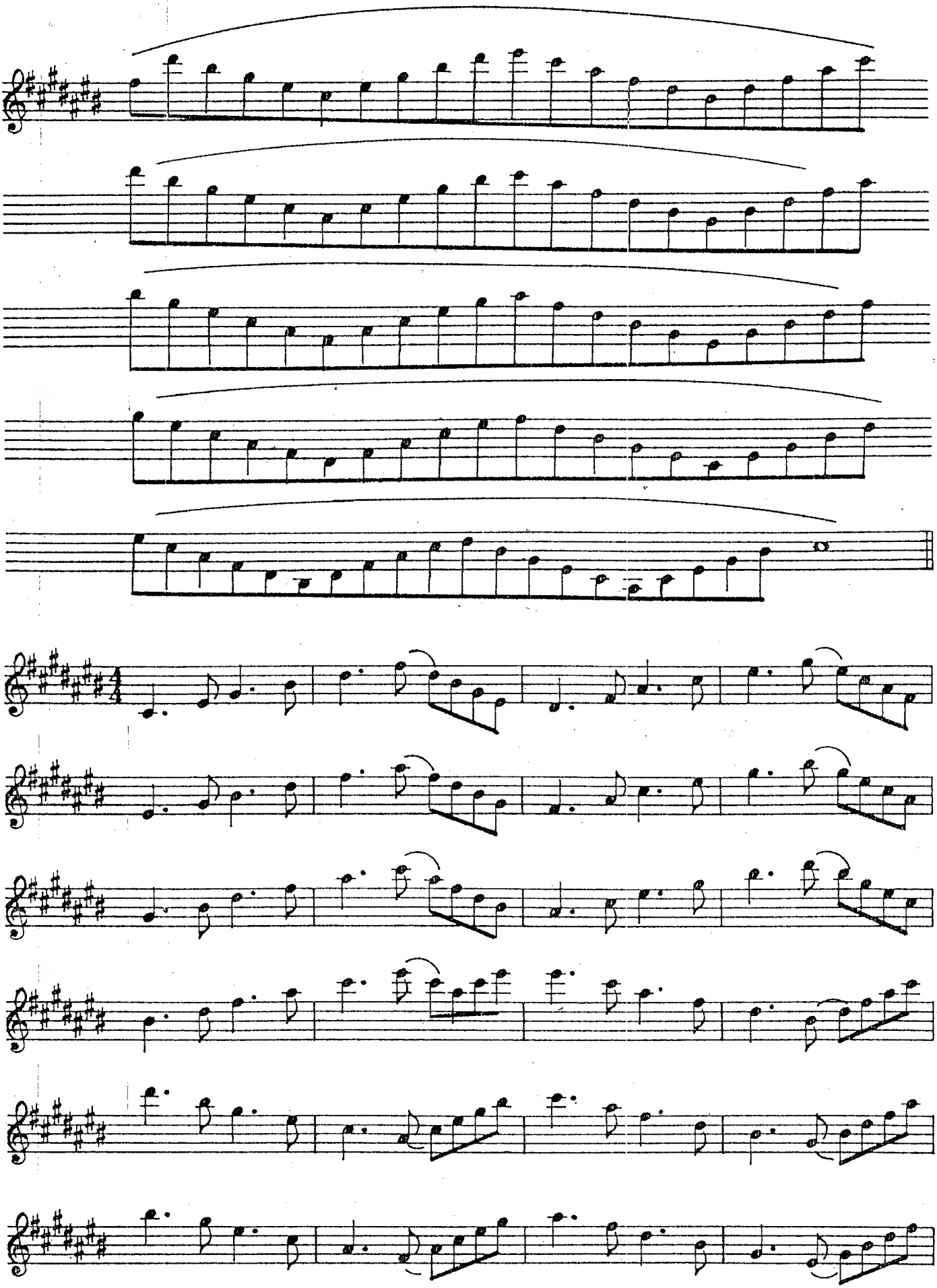


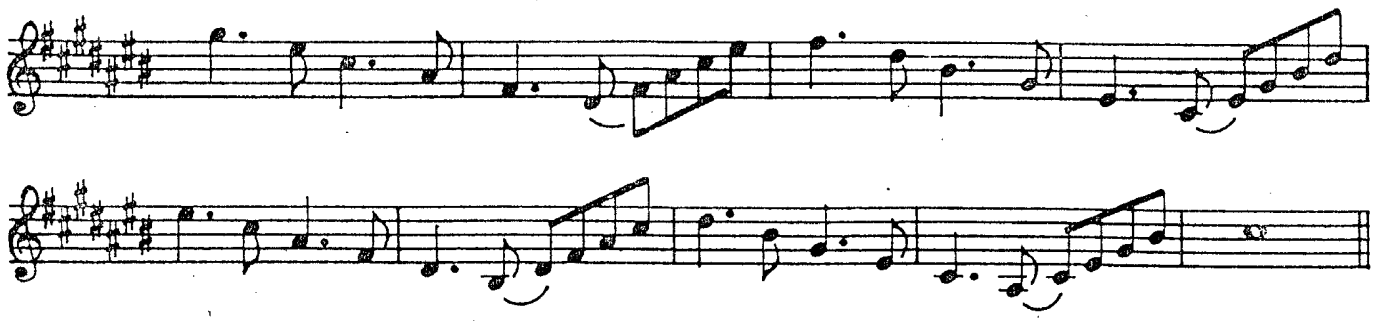


181

Key of C♯



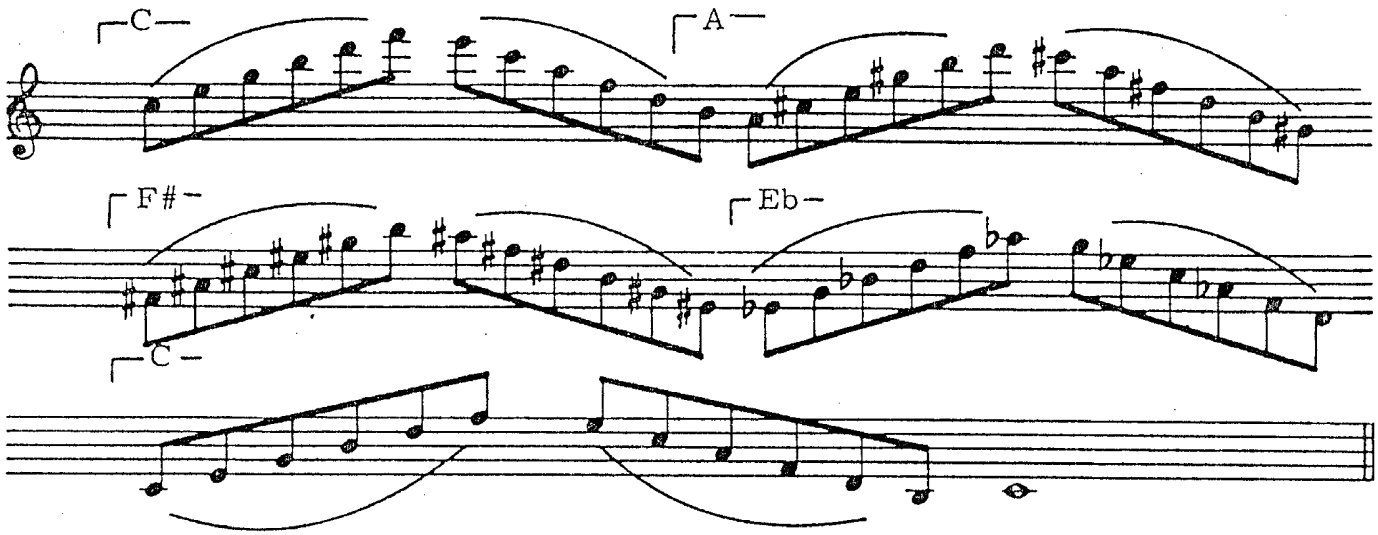




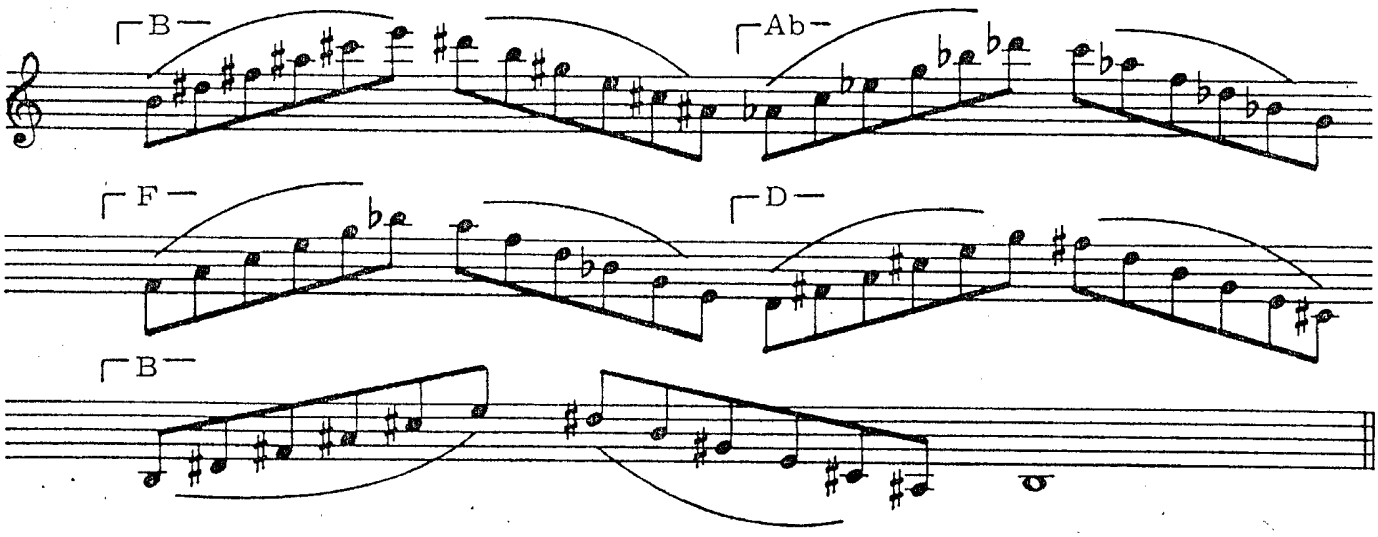
HEXADS - POLYTONAL VARIATIONS

(see author's notes)

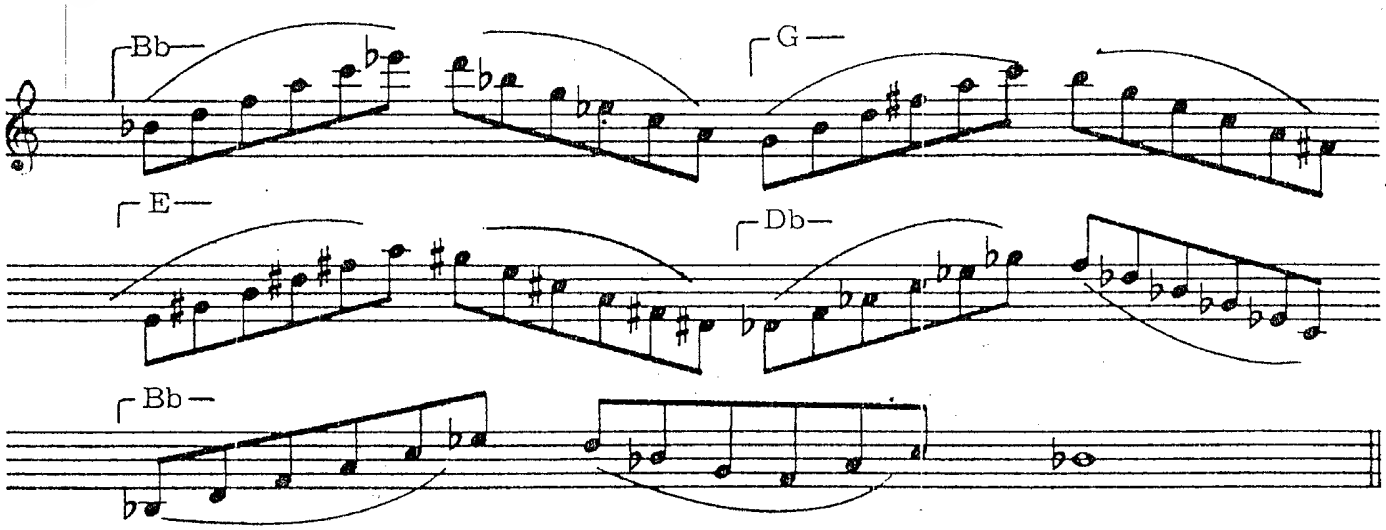
182



183



184



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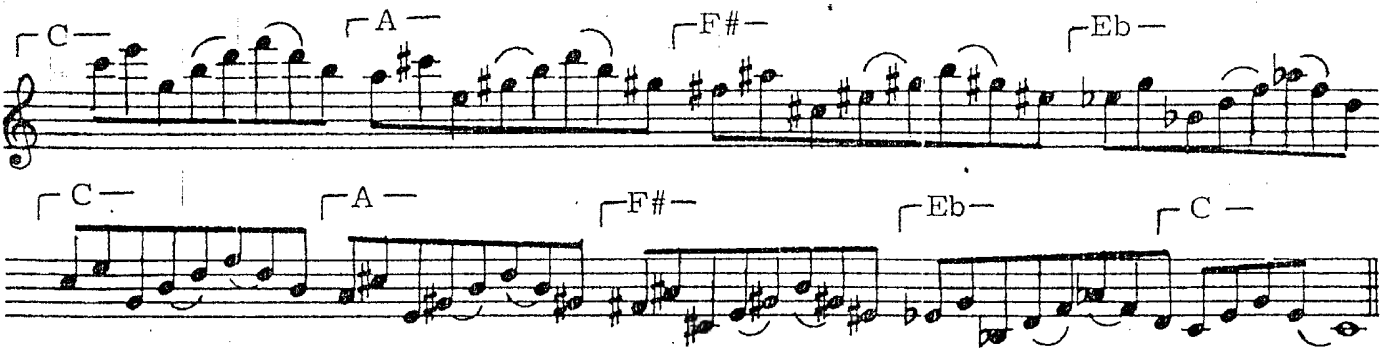

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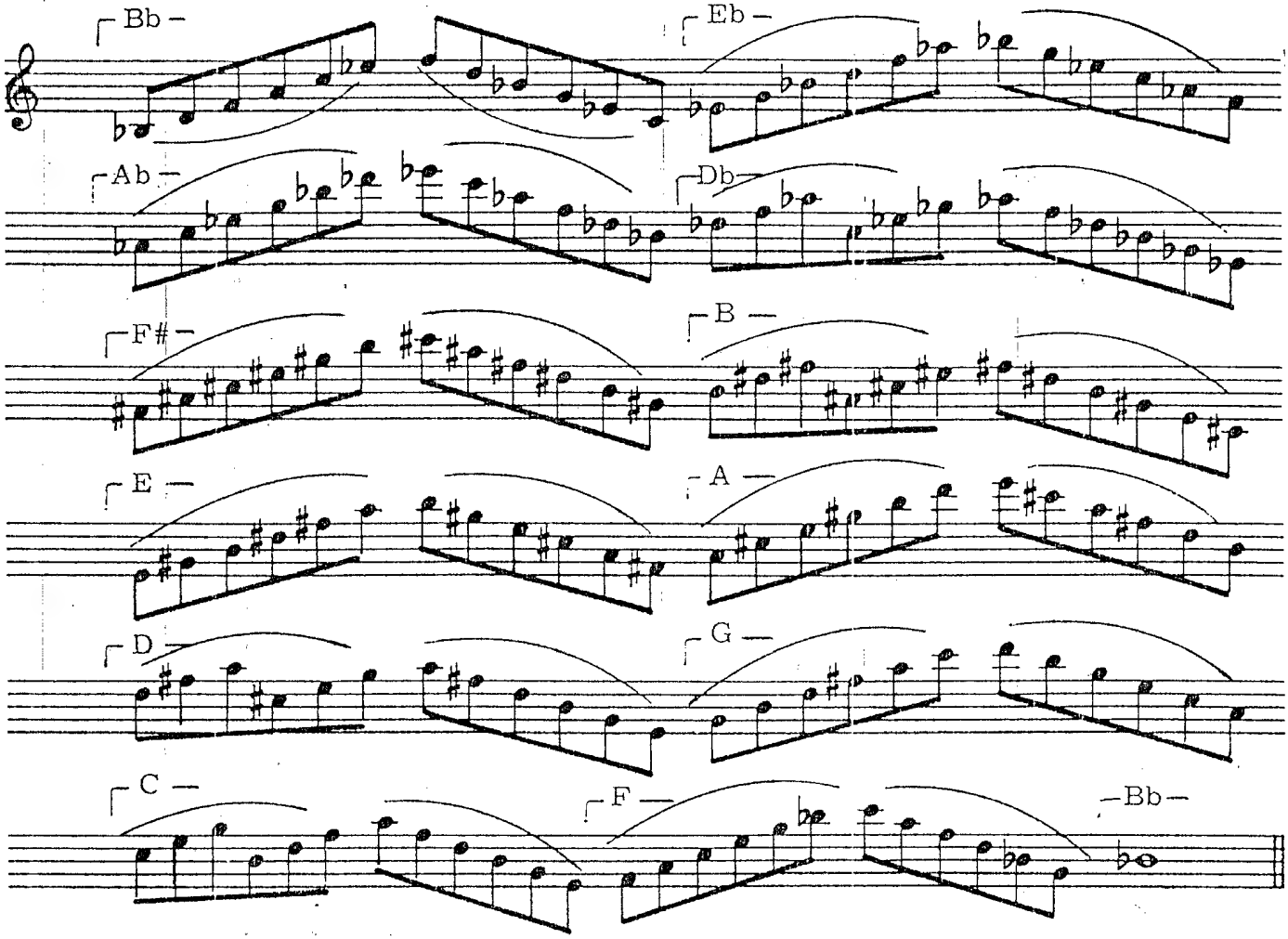
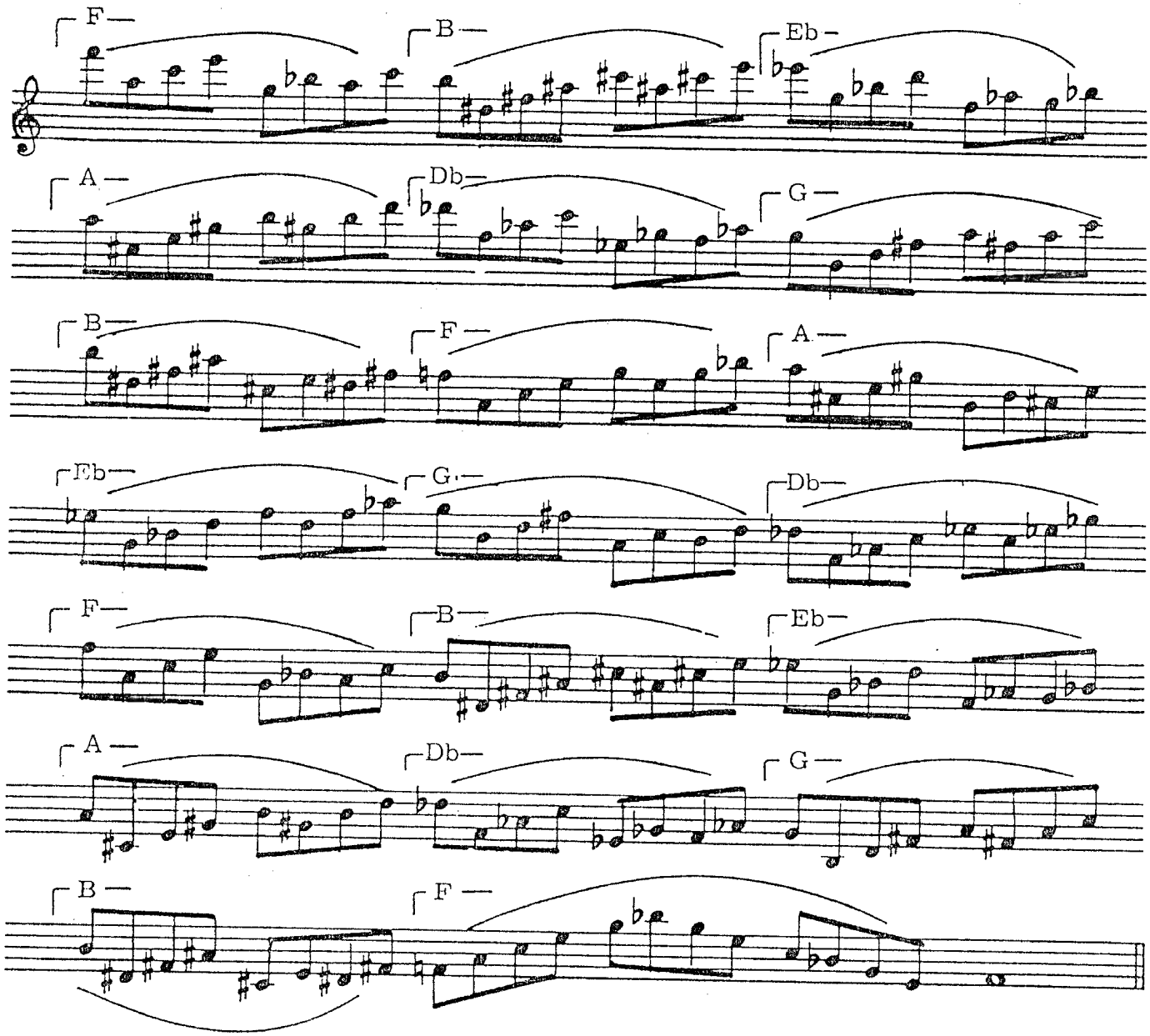


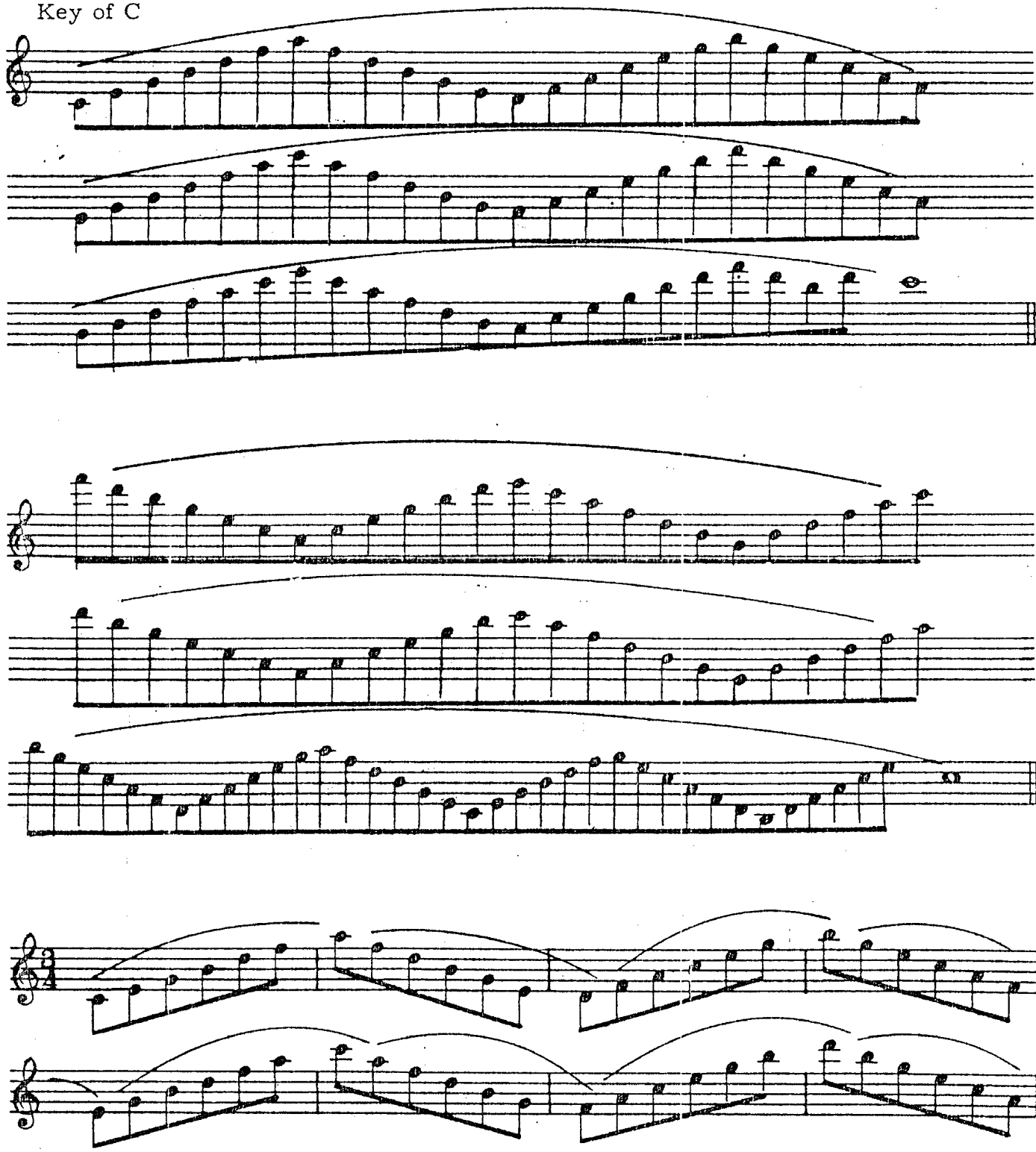
187

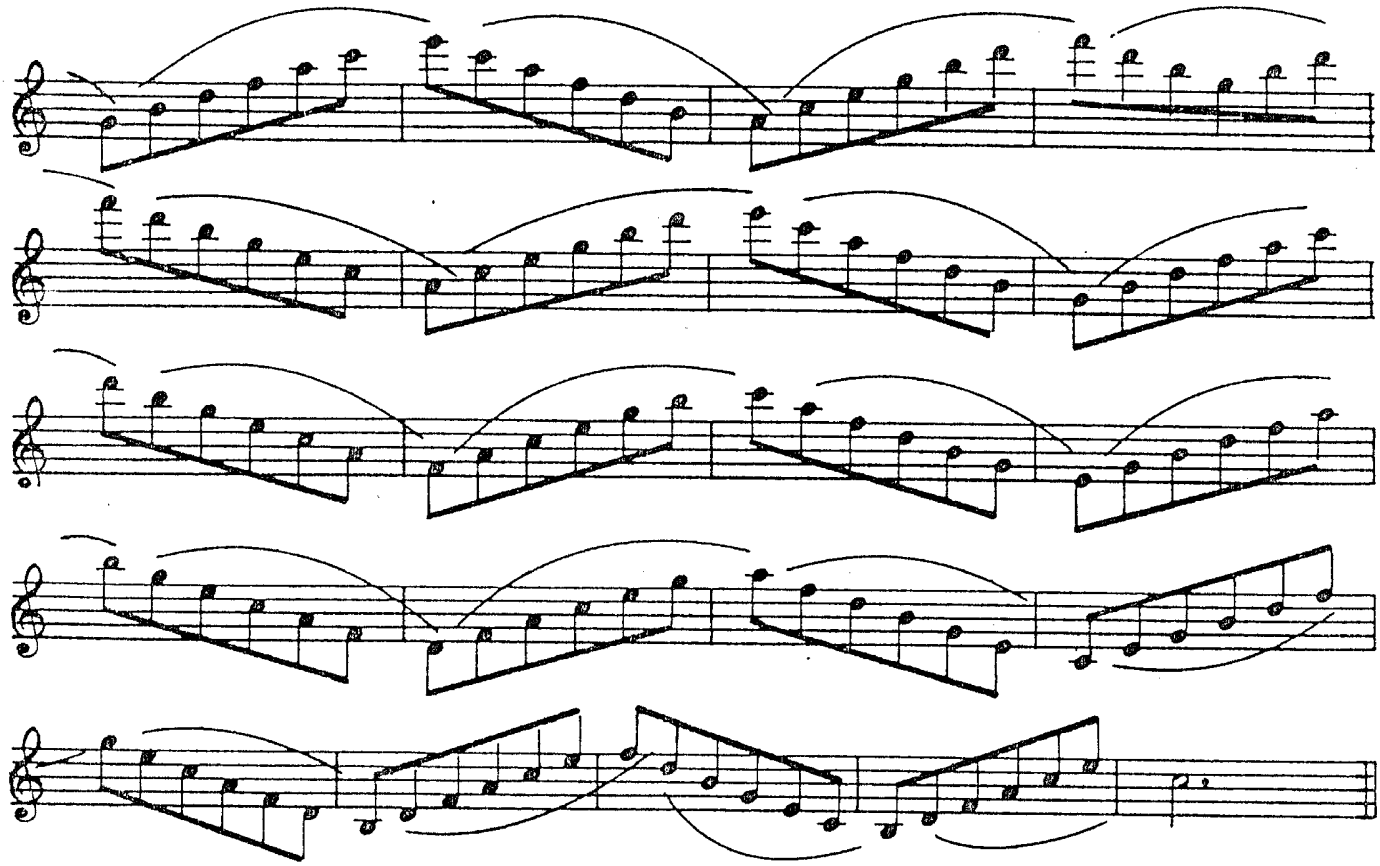


Section VII

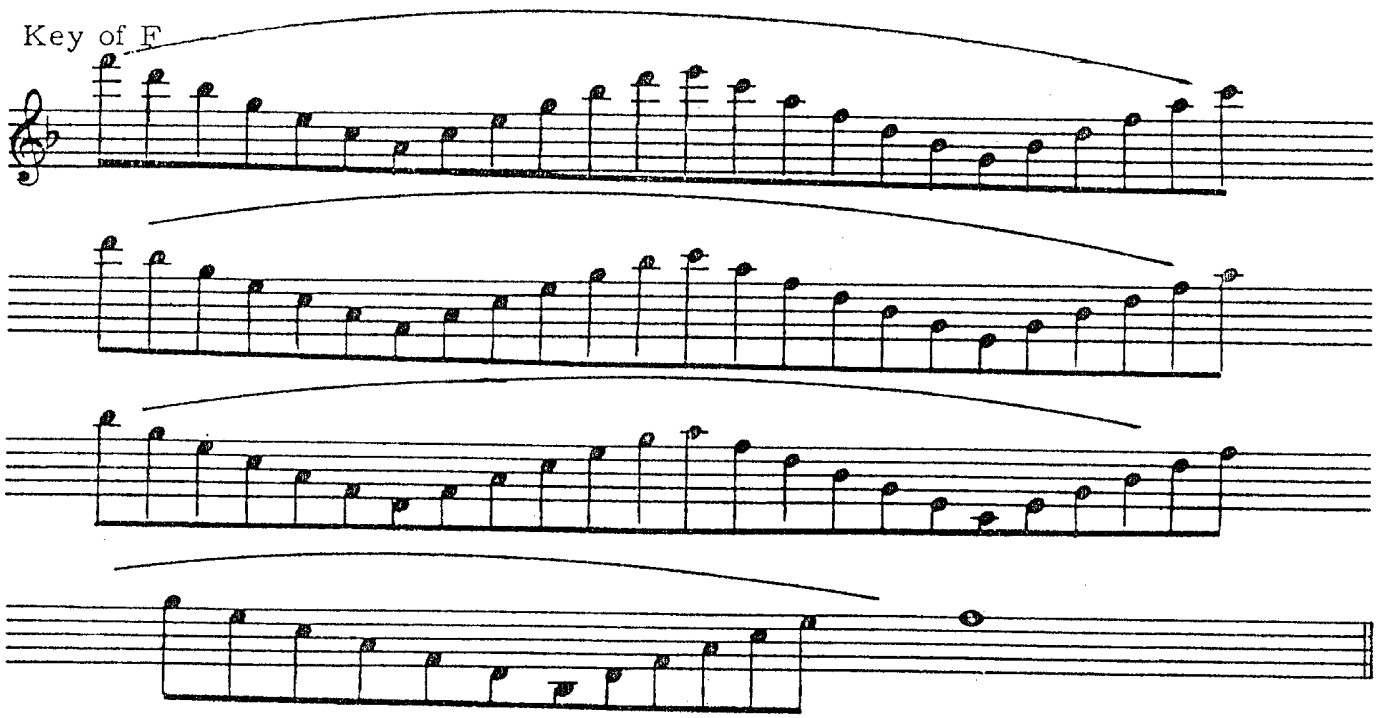
SEPTADS - TONAL VARIATIONS

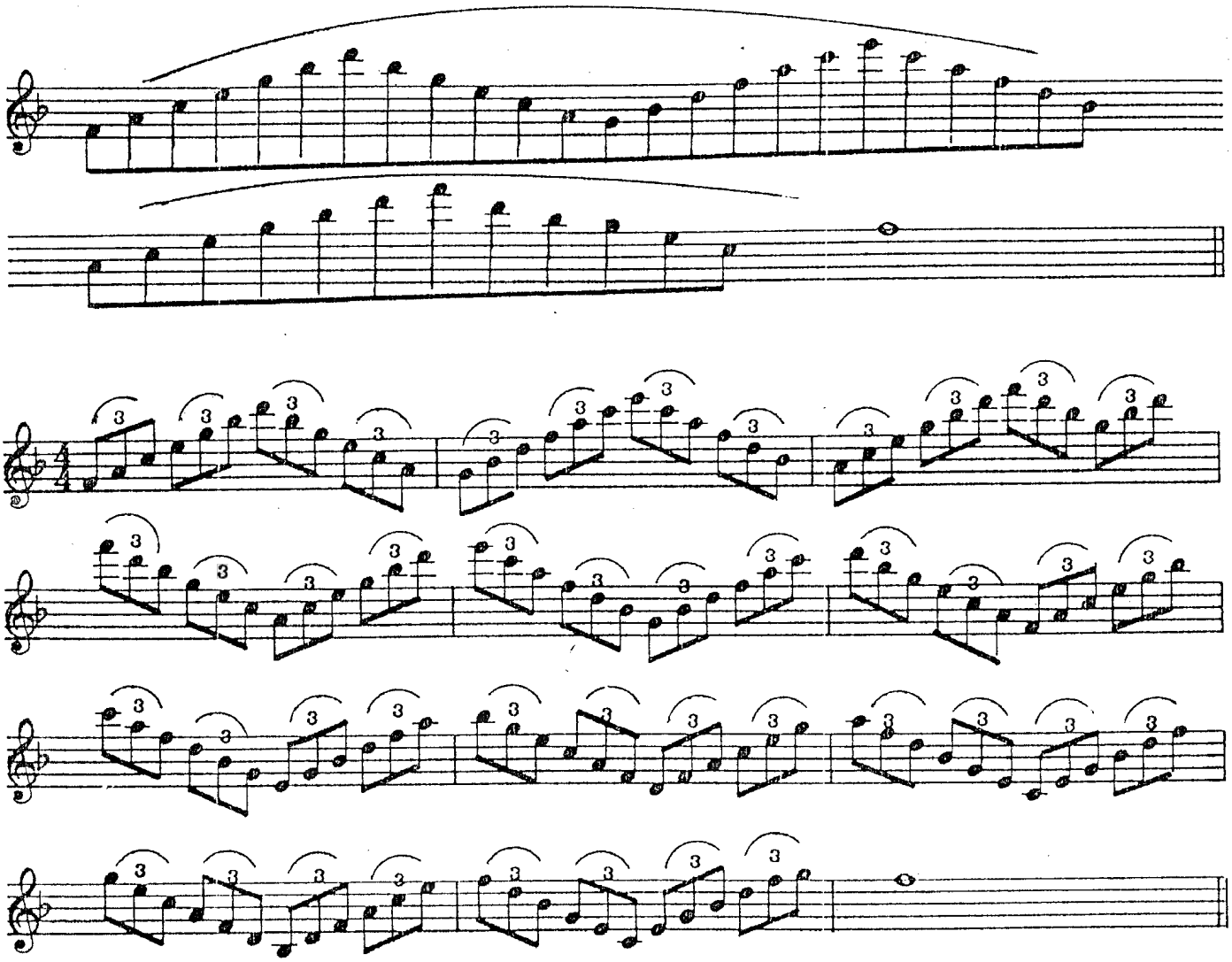
188 Key of C





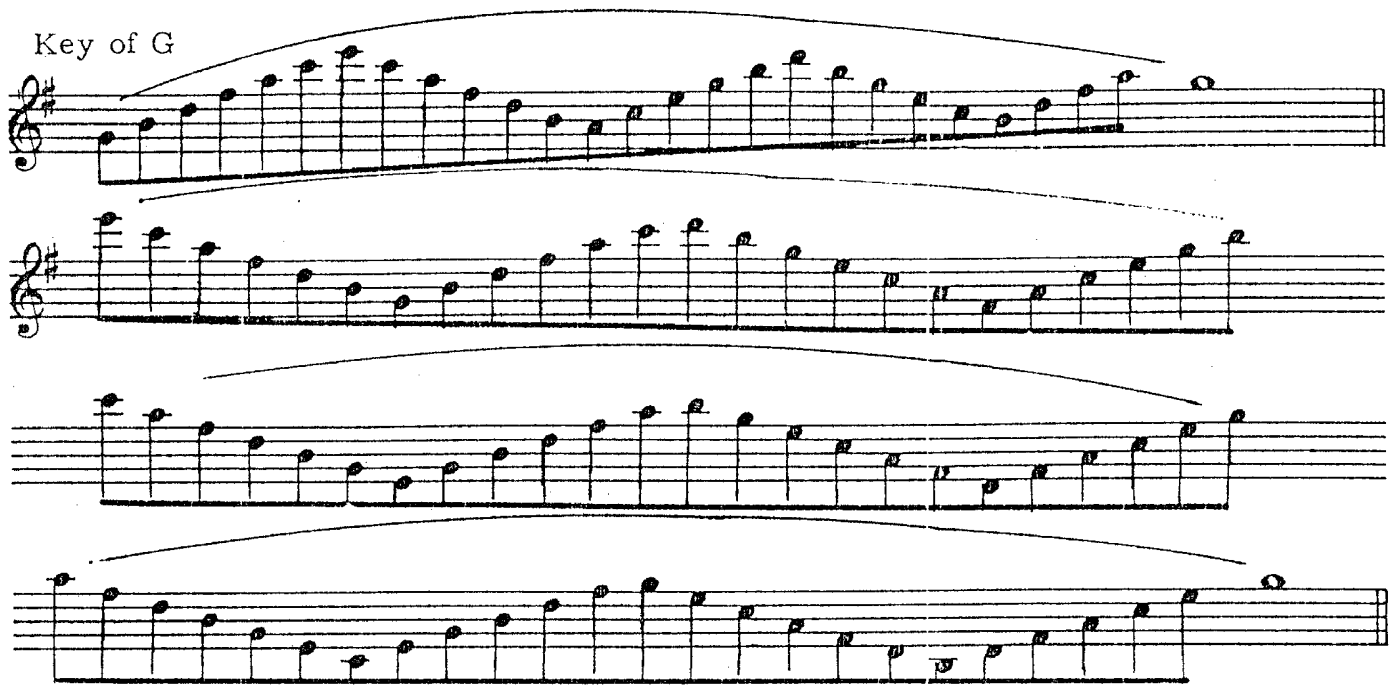
189 Key of F

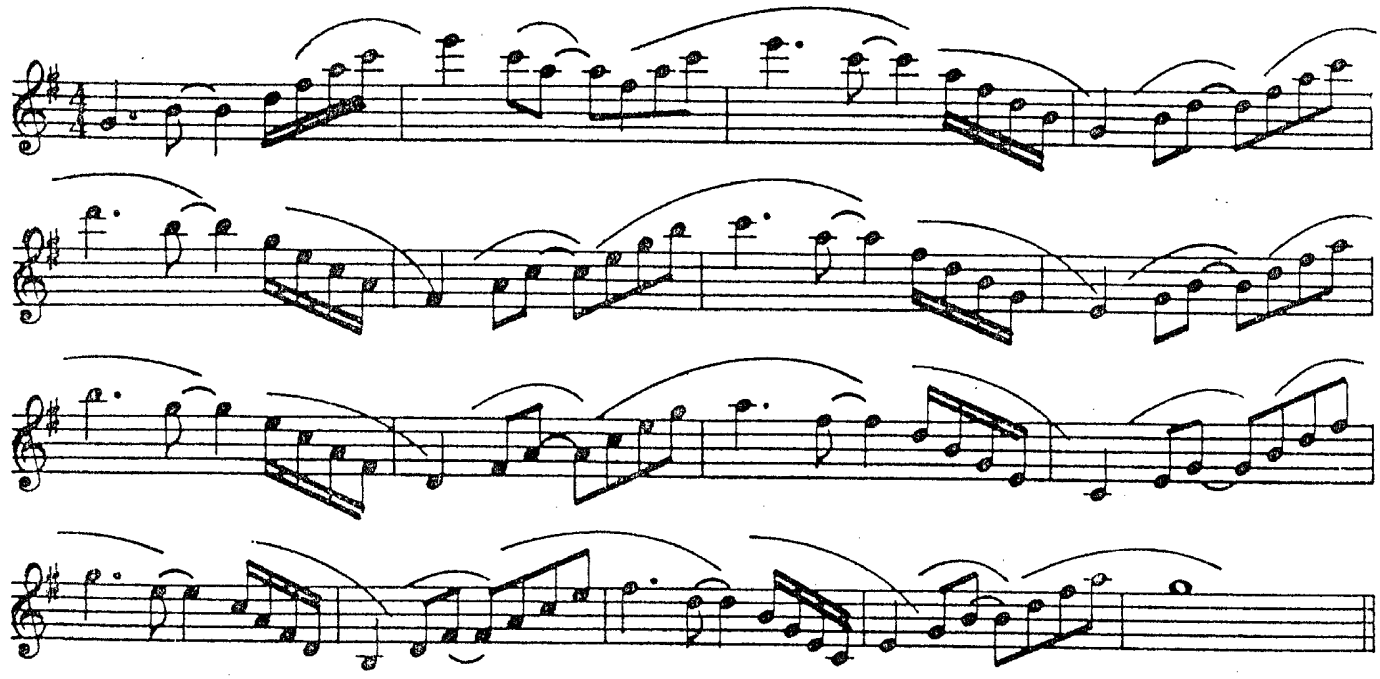




Key of G

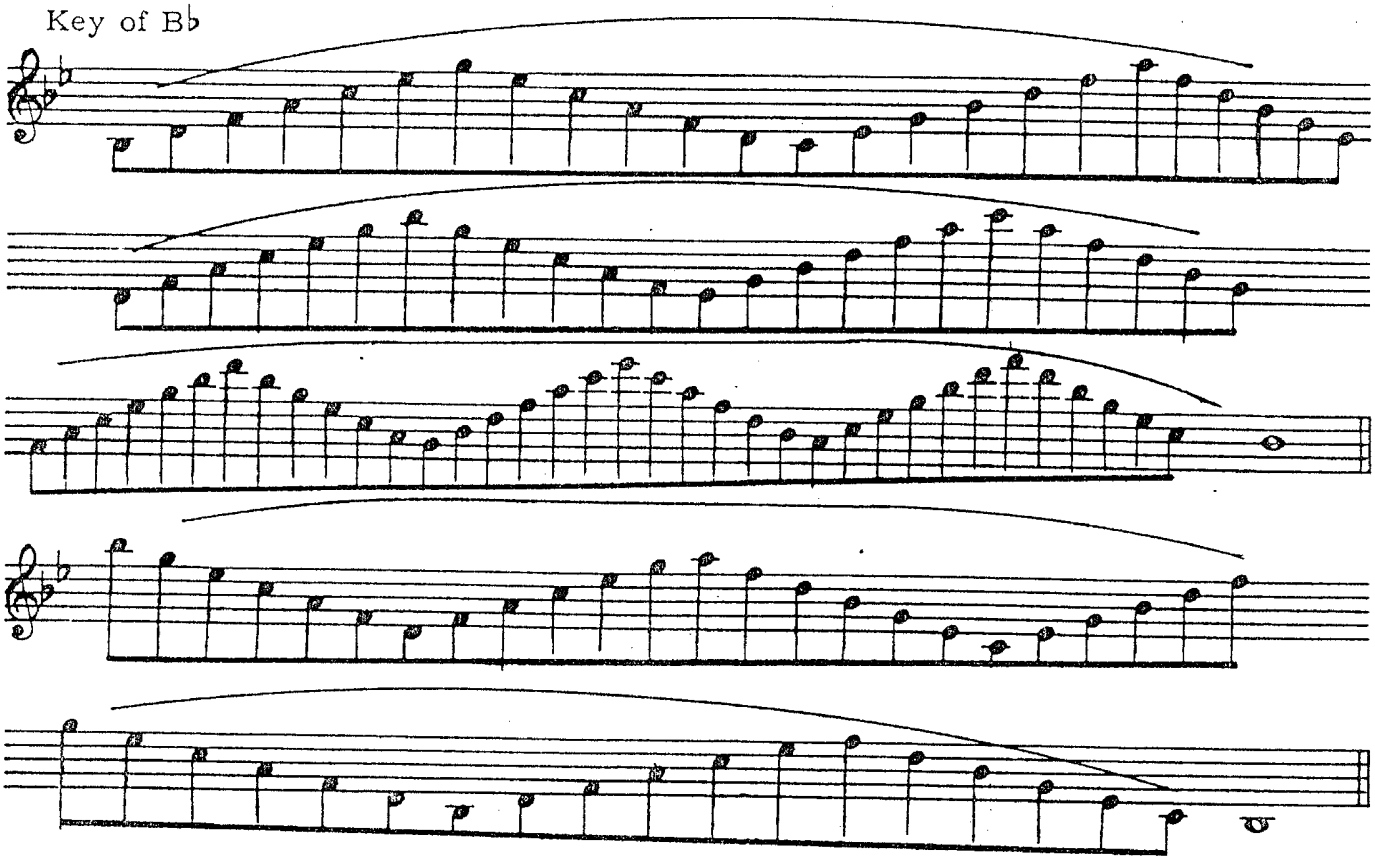
190

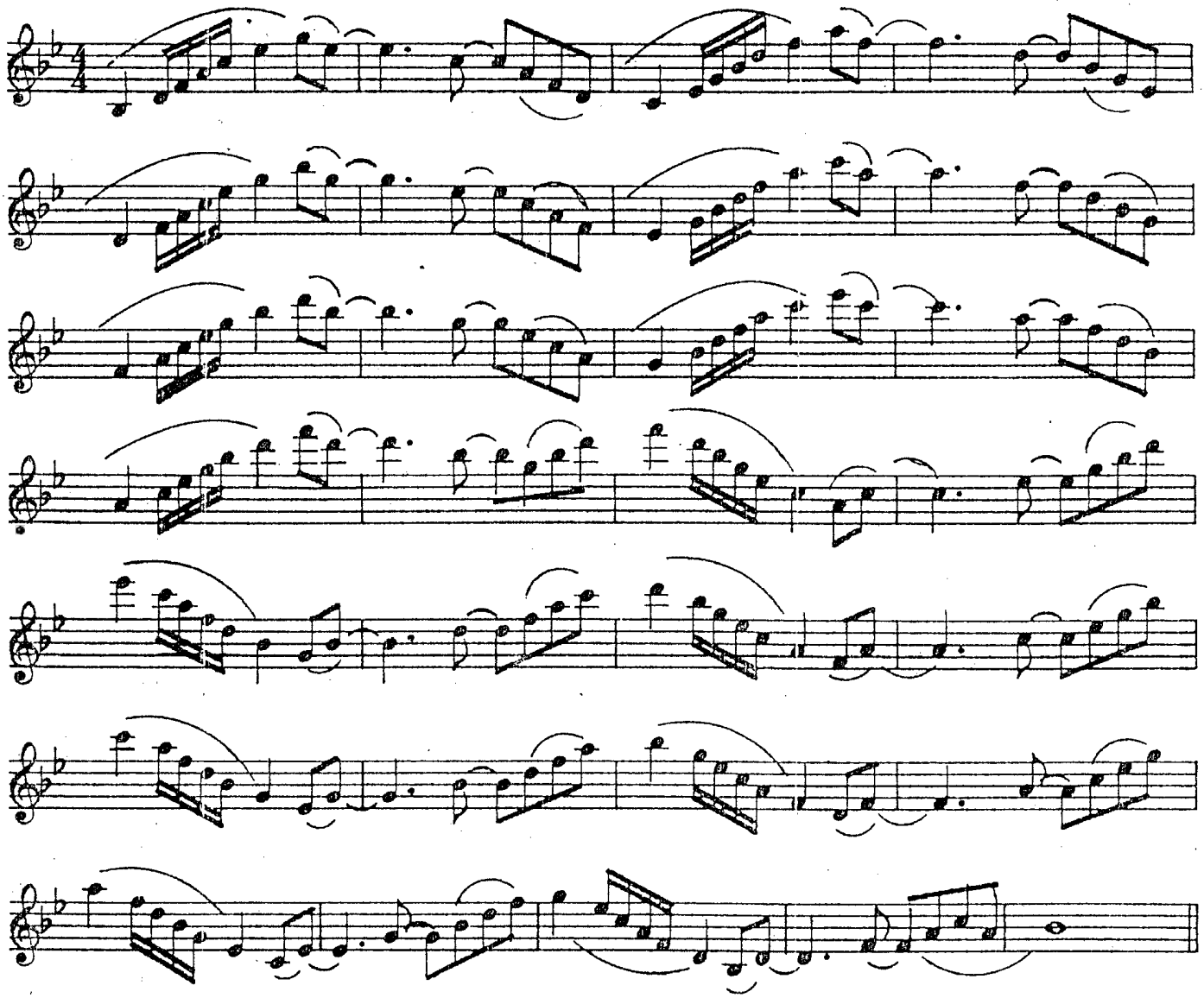




191

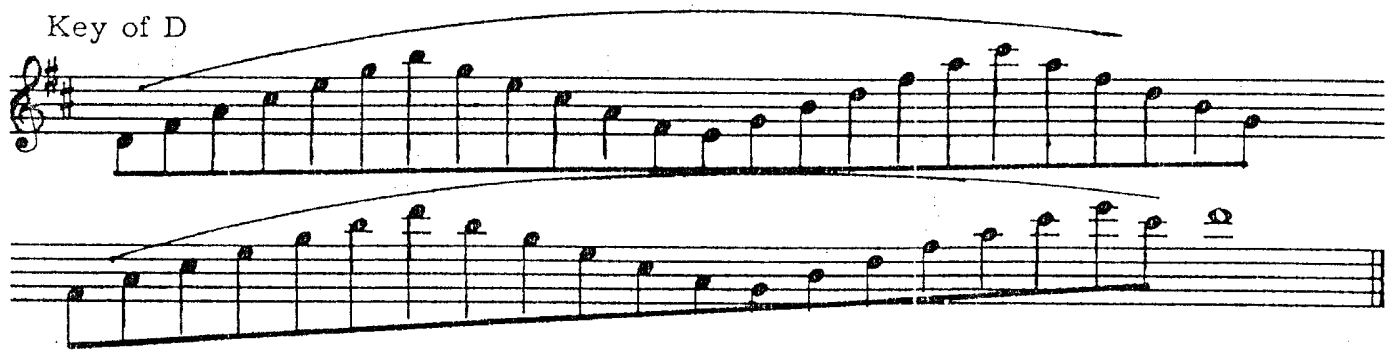
Key of B♭

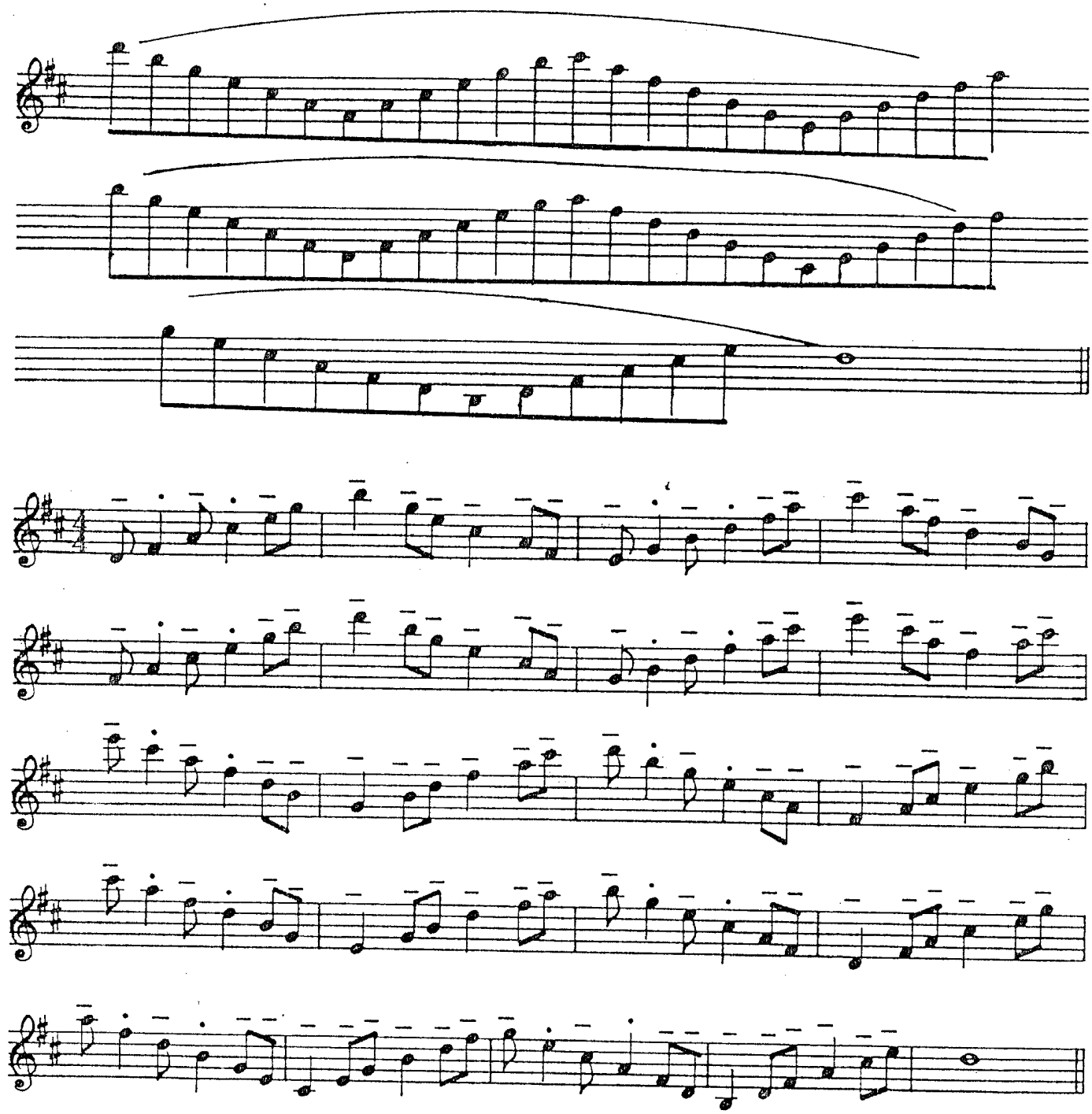




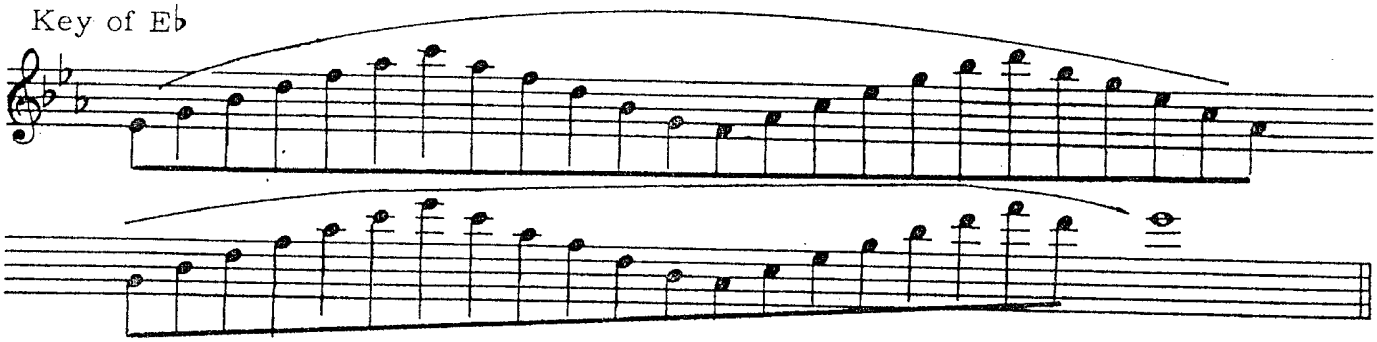
192

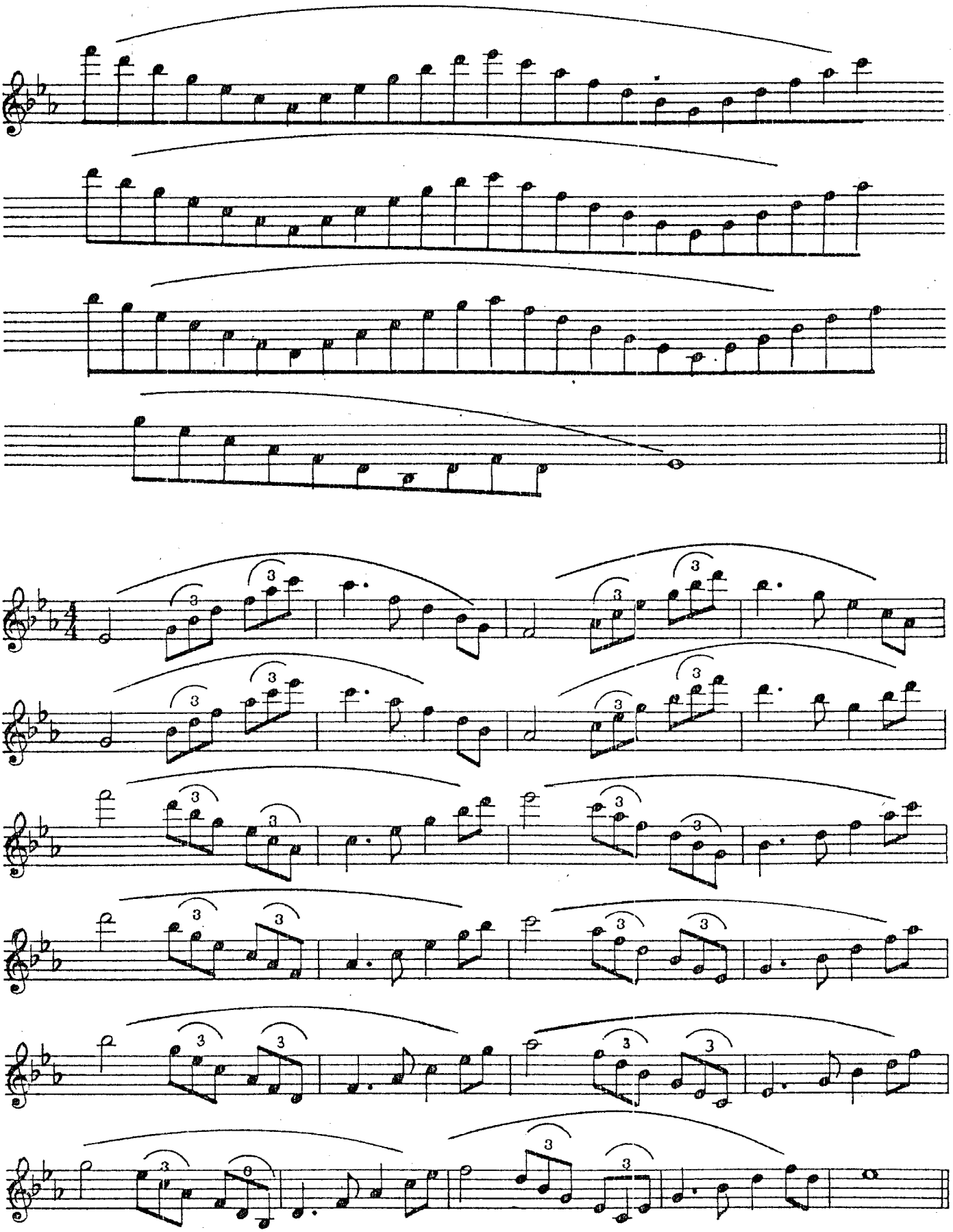
Key of D



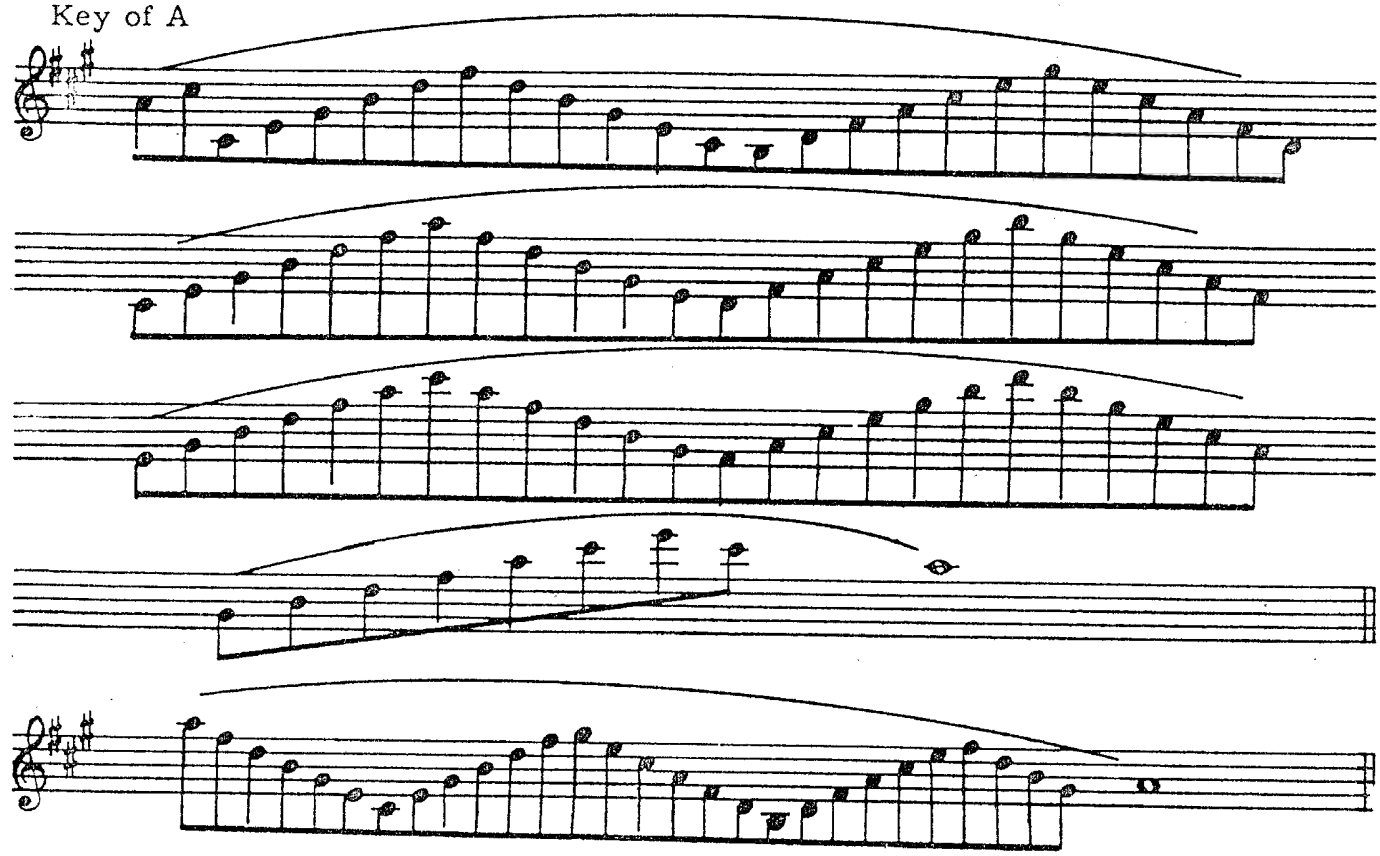


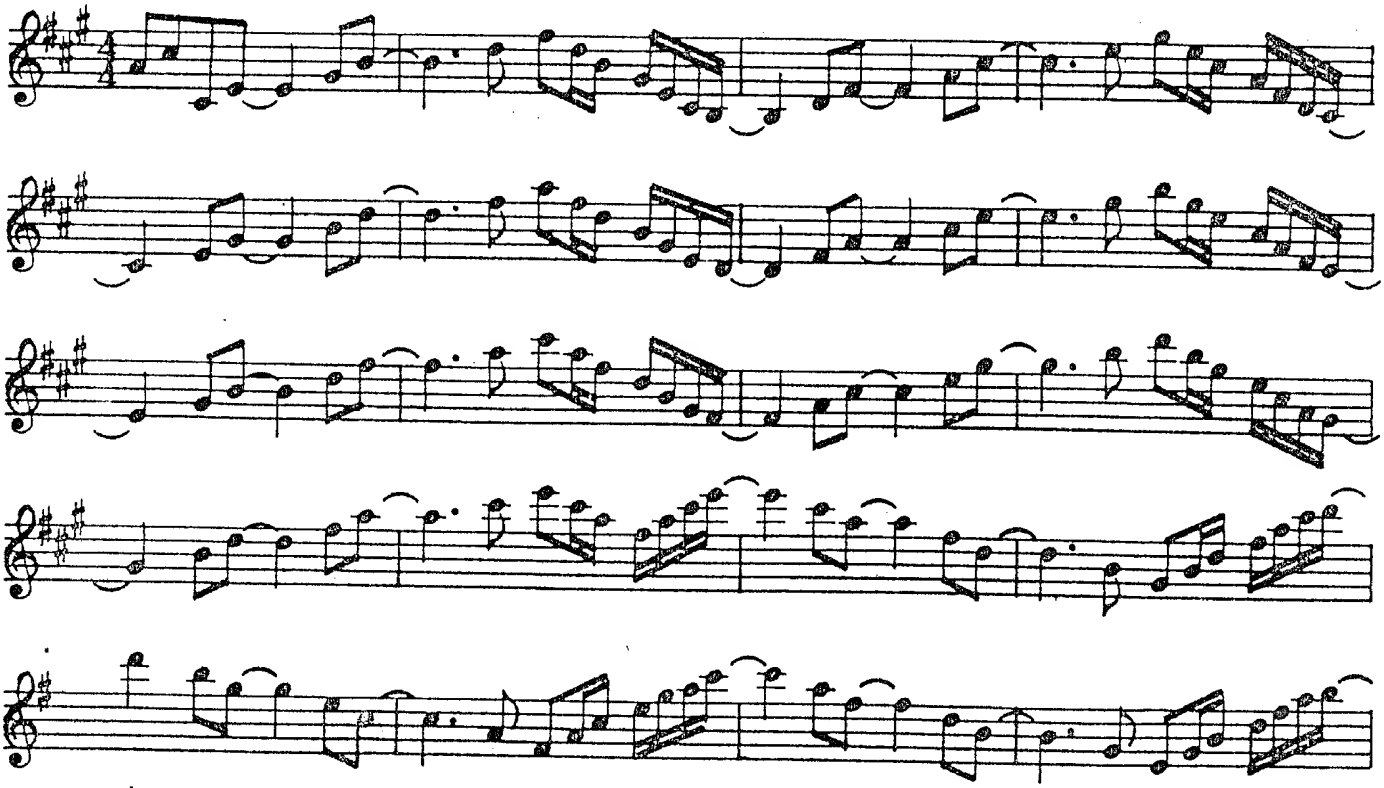
93 Key of Eb

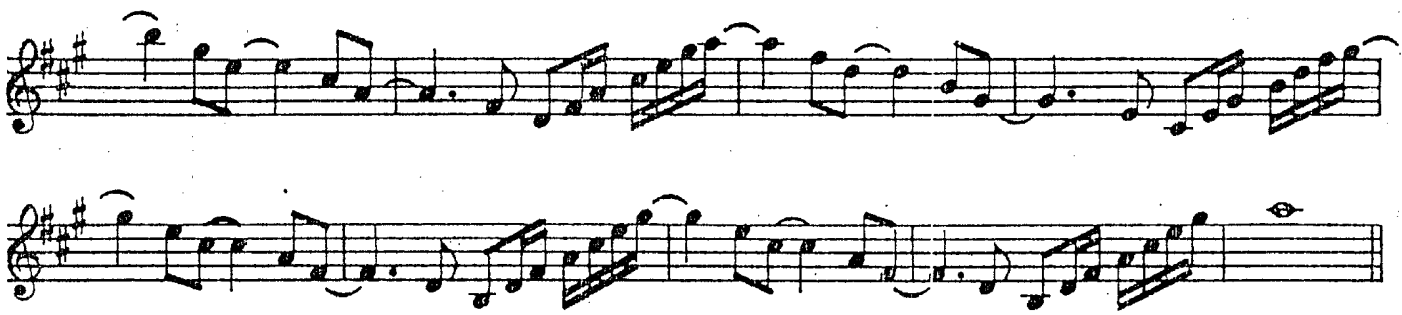




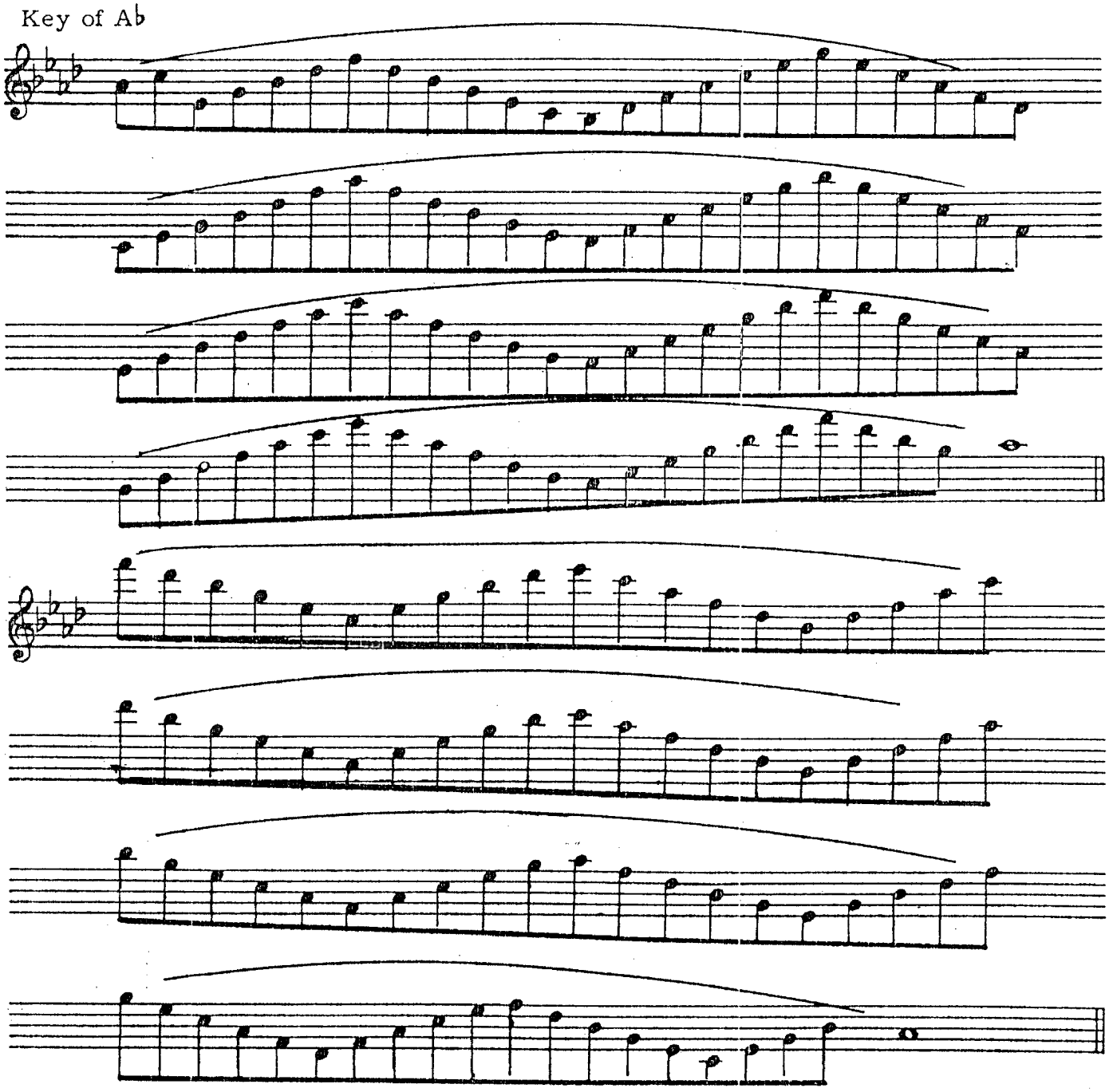
194 Key of A

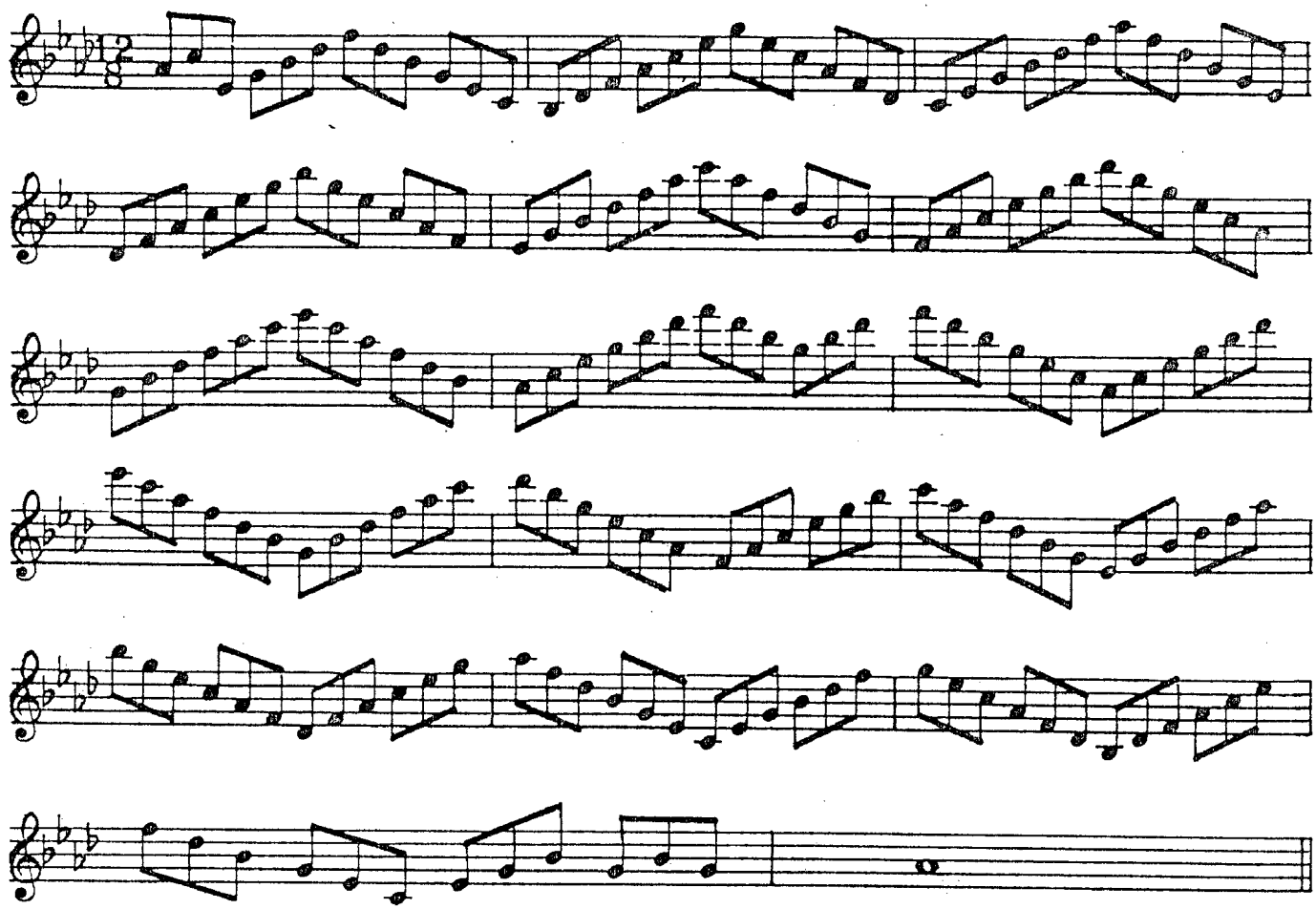




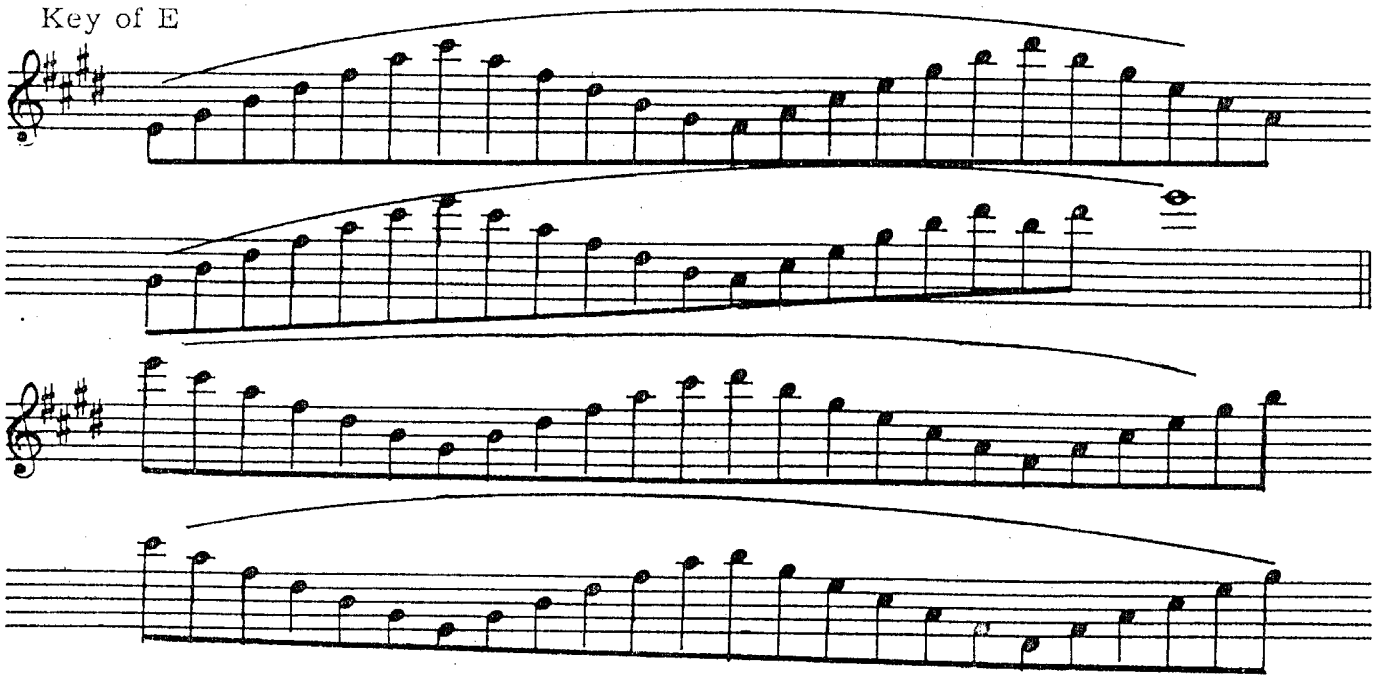


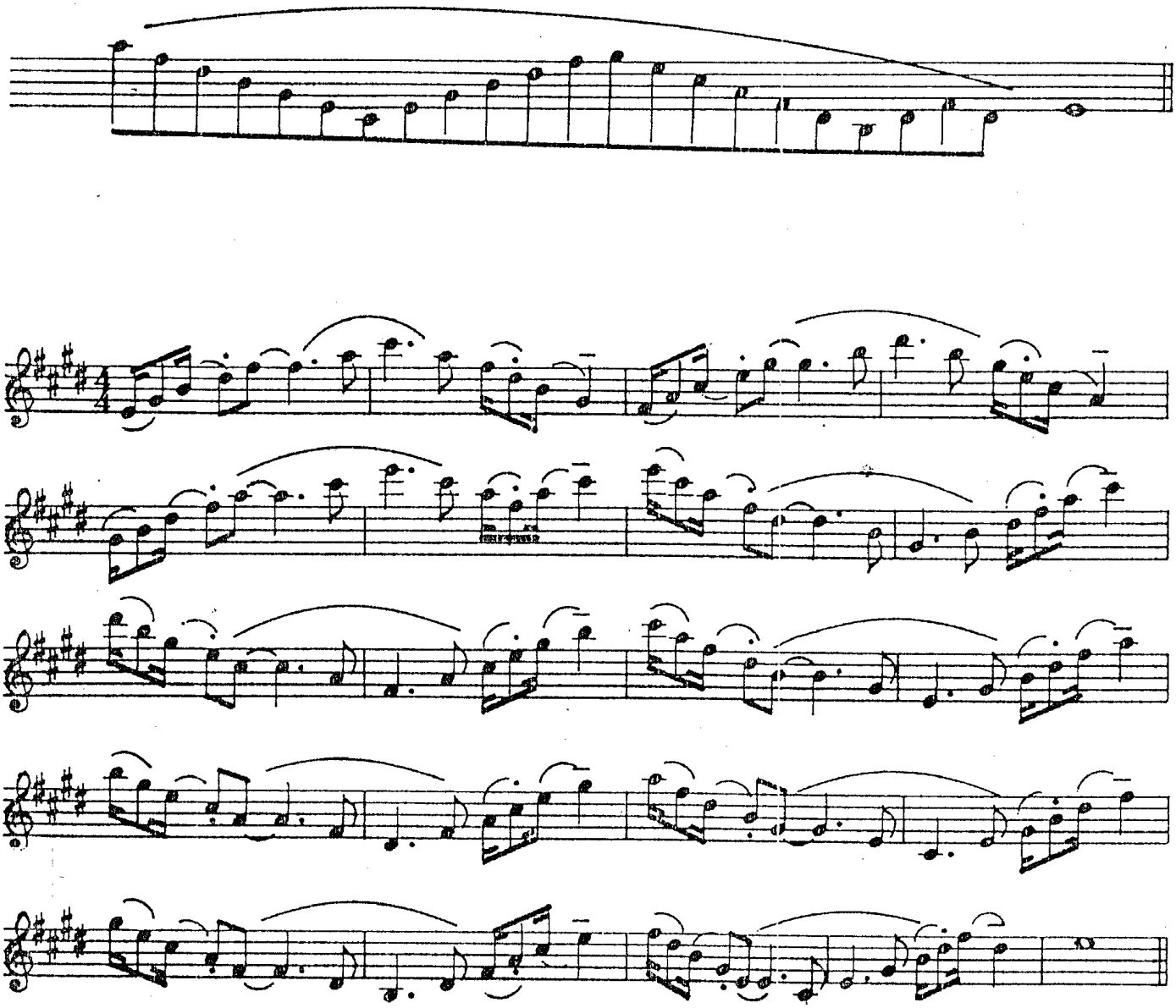
195 Key of Ab





196 Key of E





197

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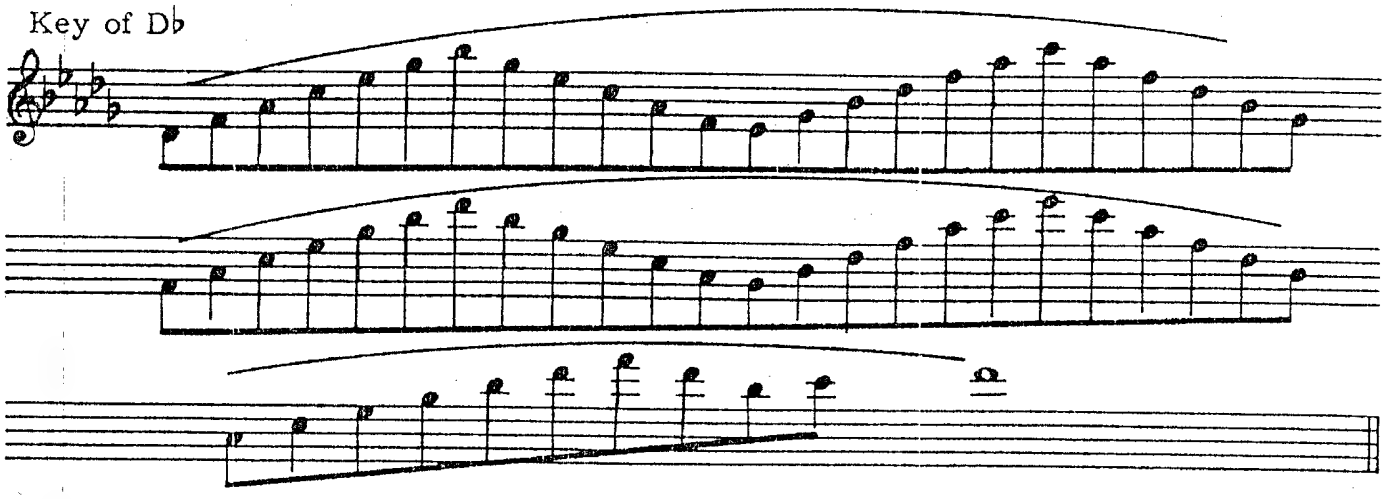
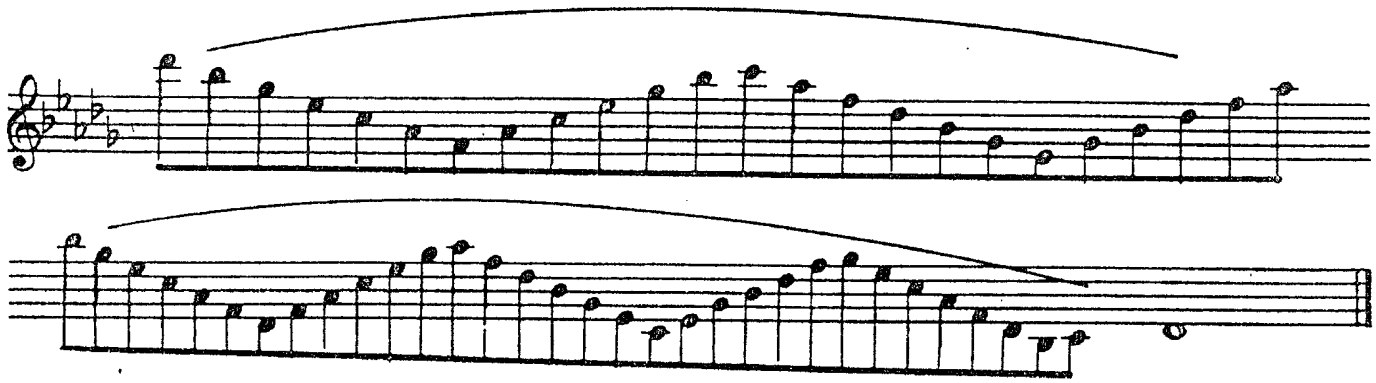
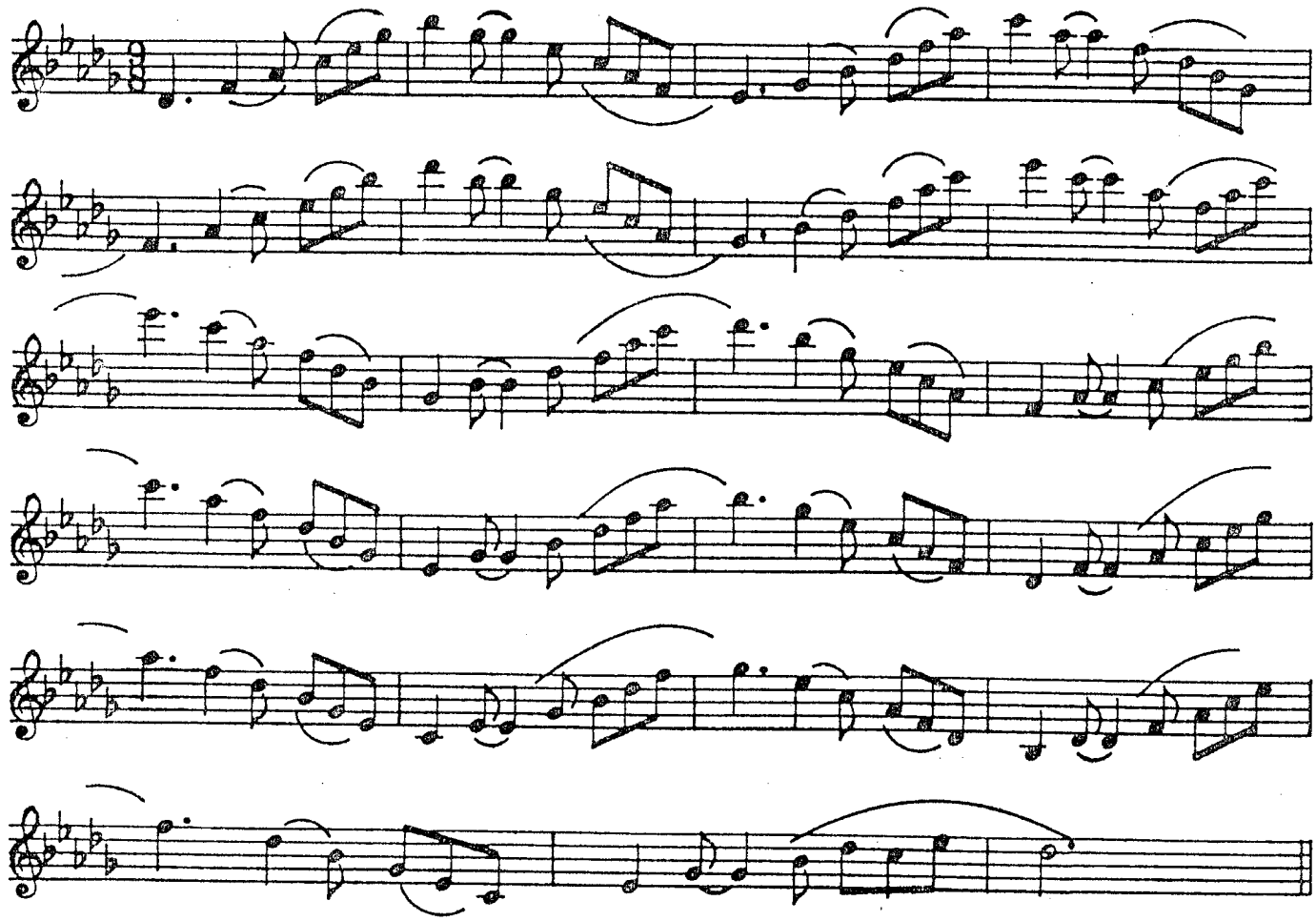
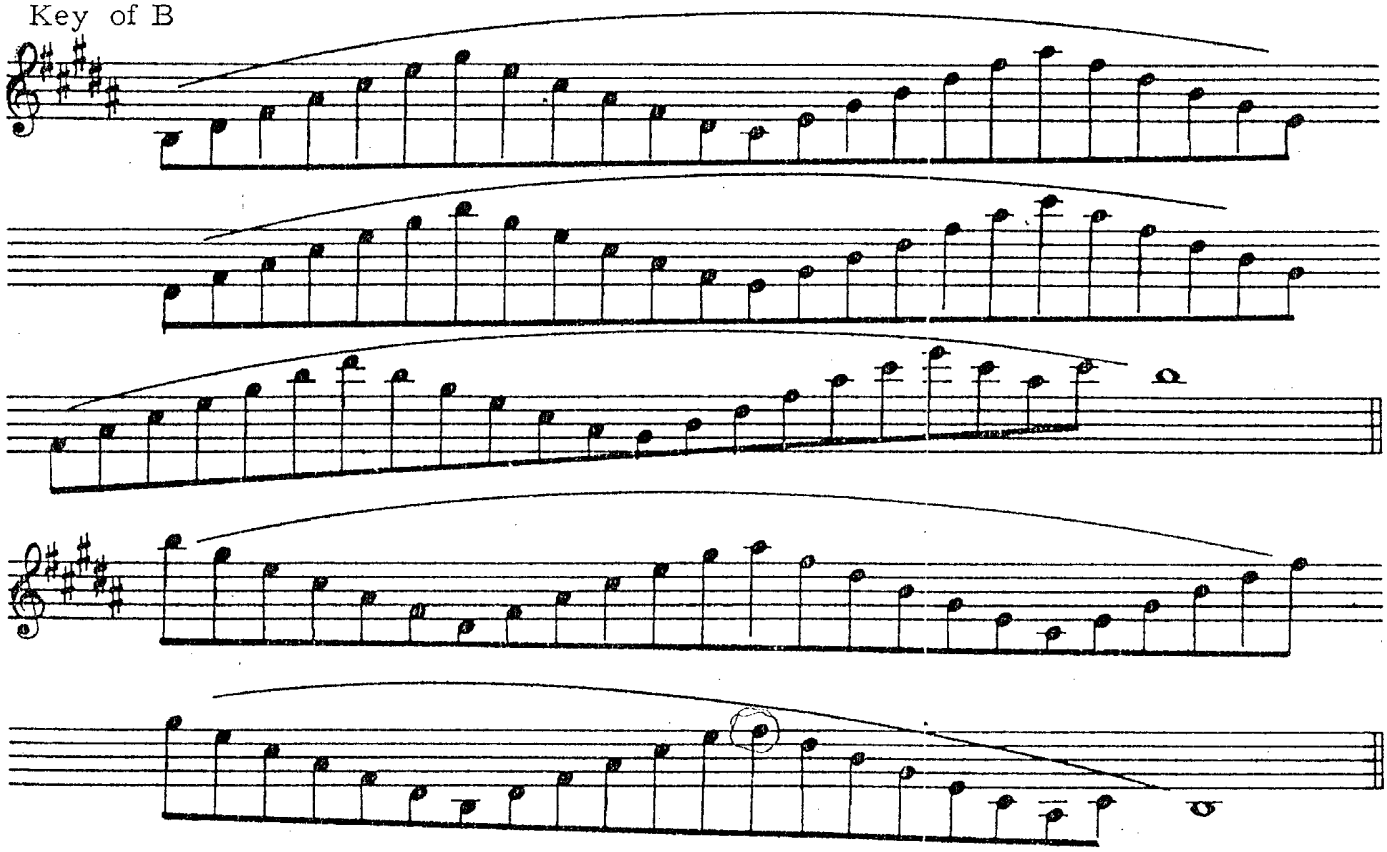
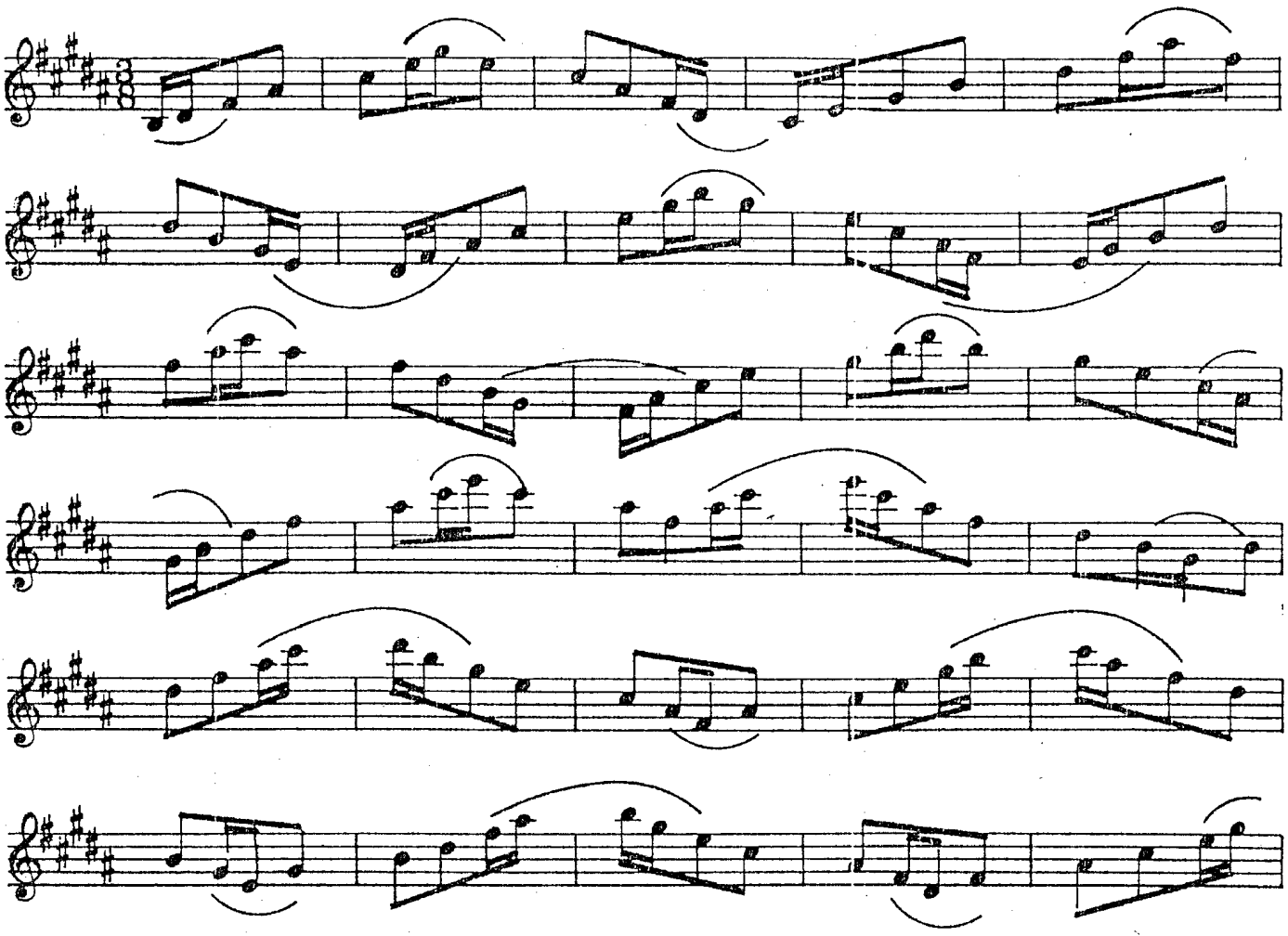


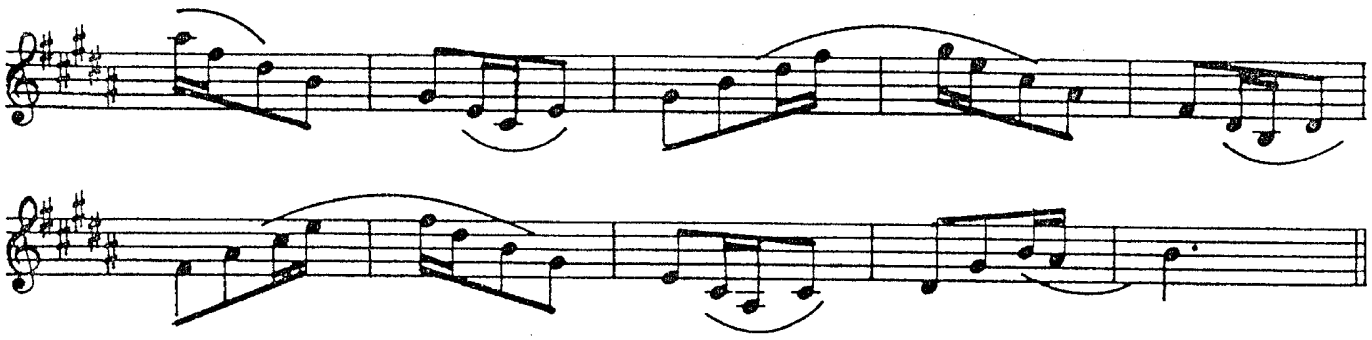




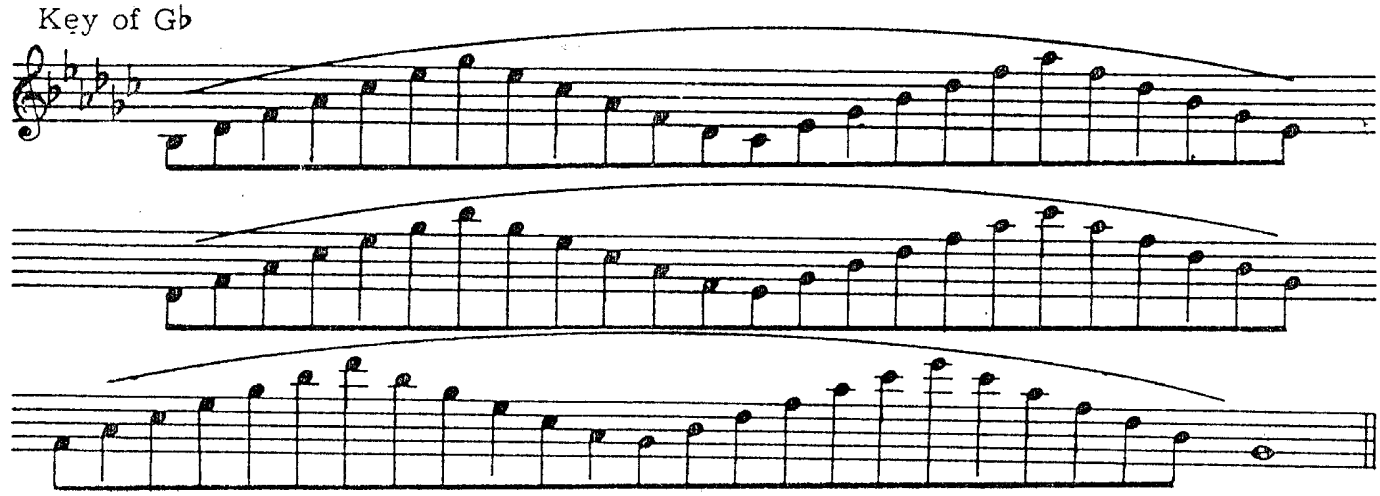
198 Key of B

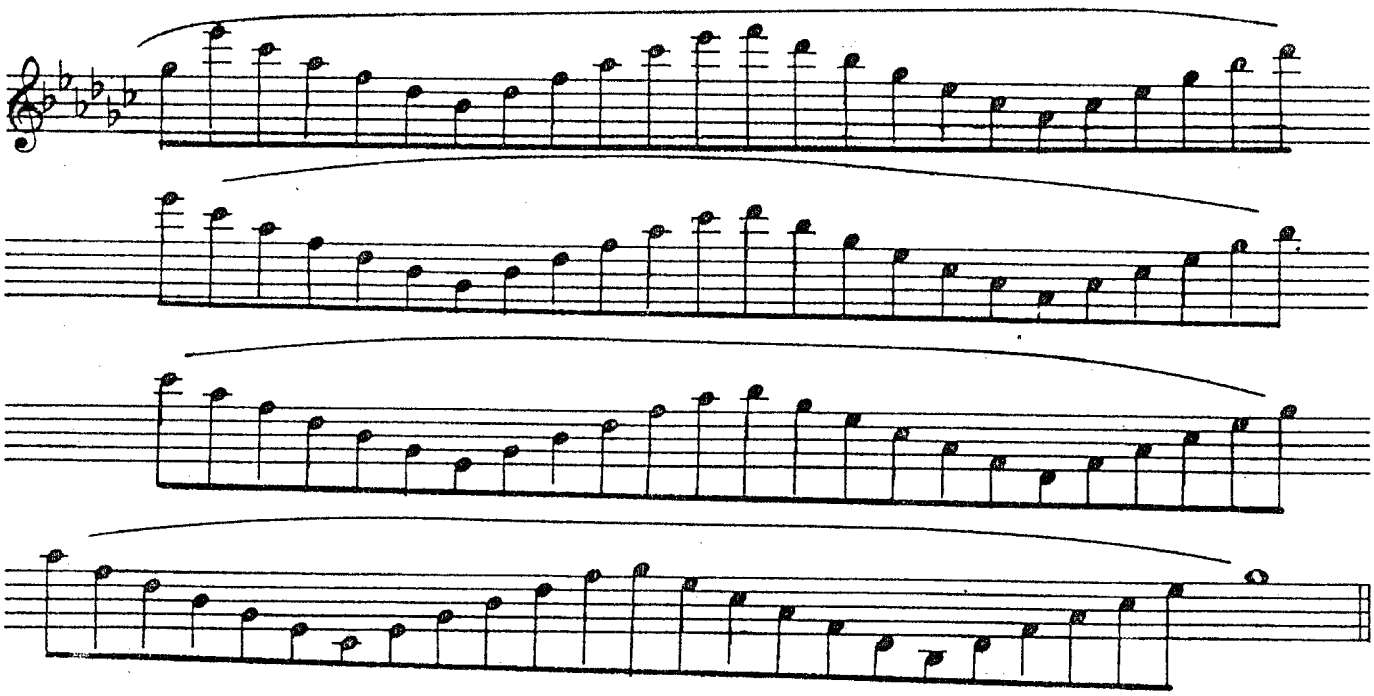


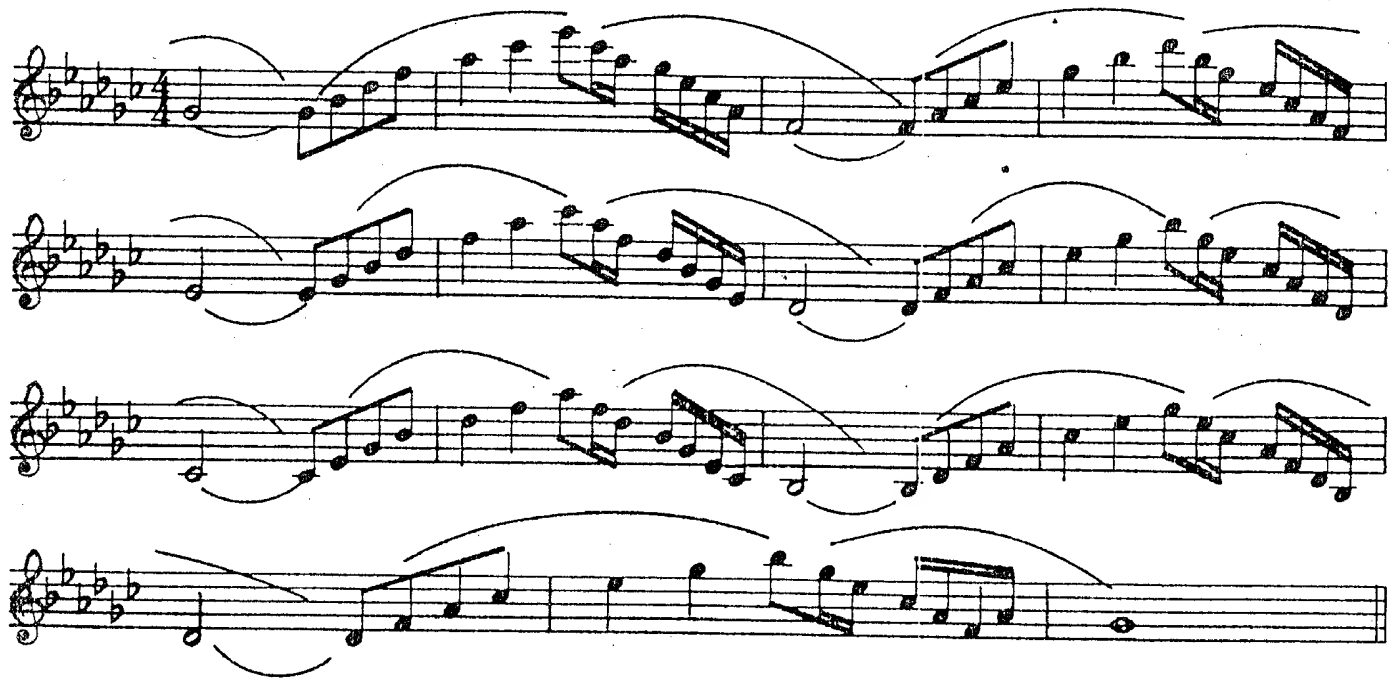




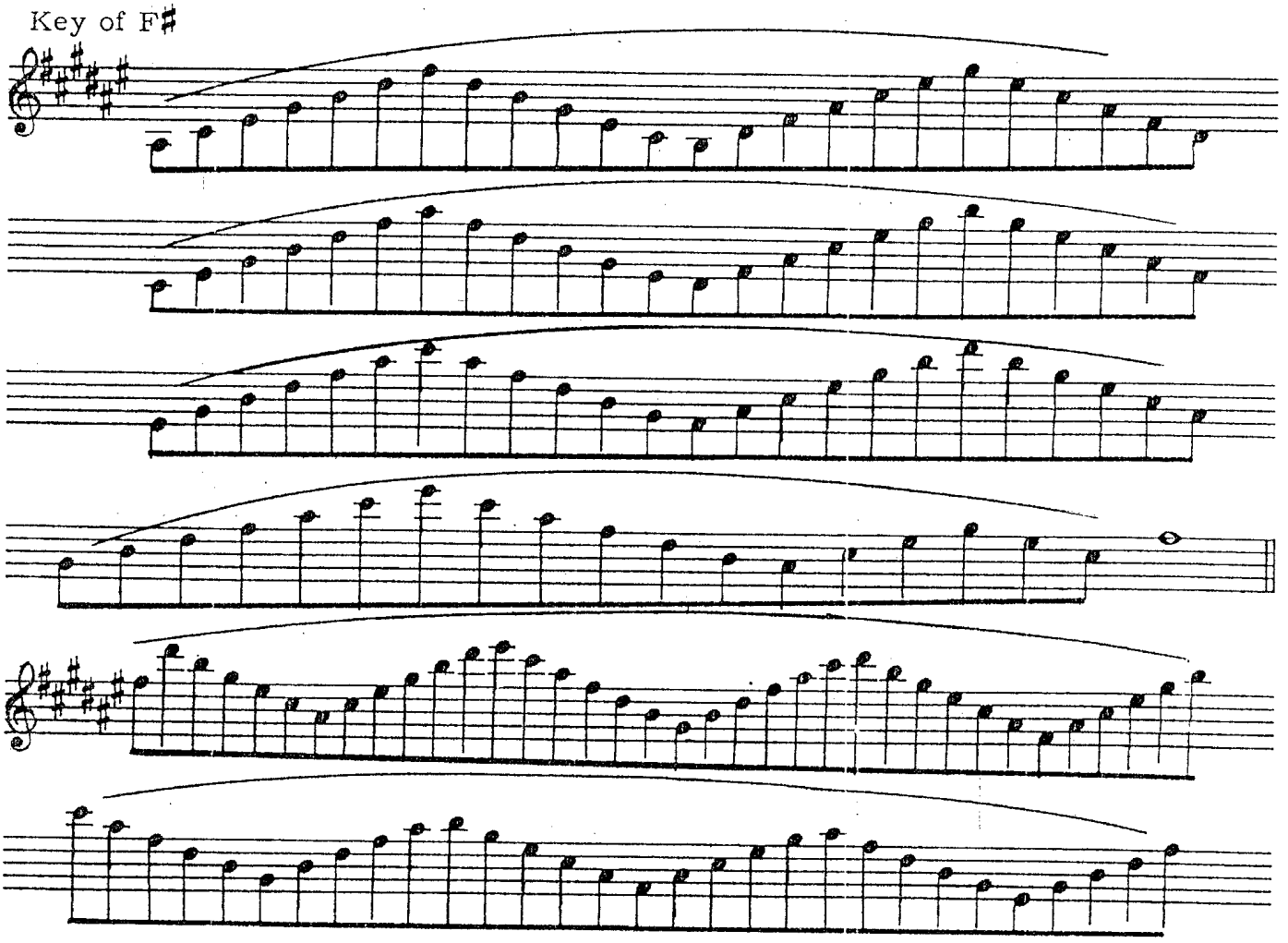
199 Key of G♭

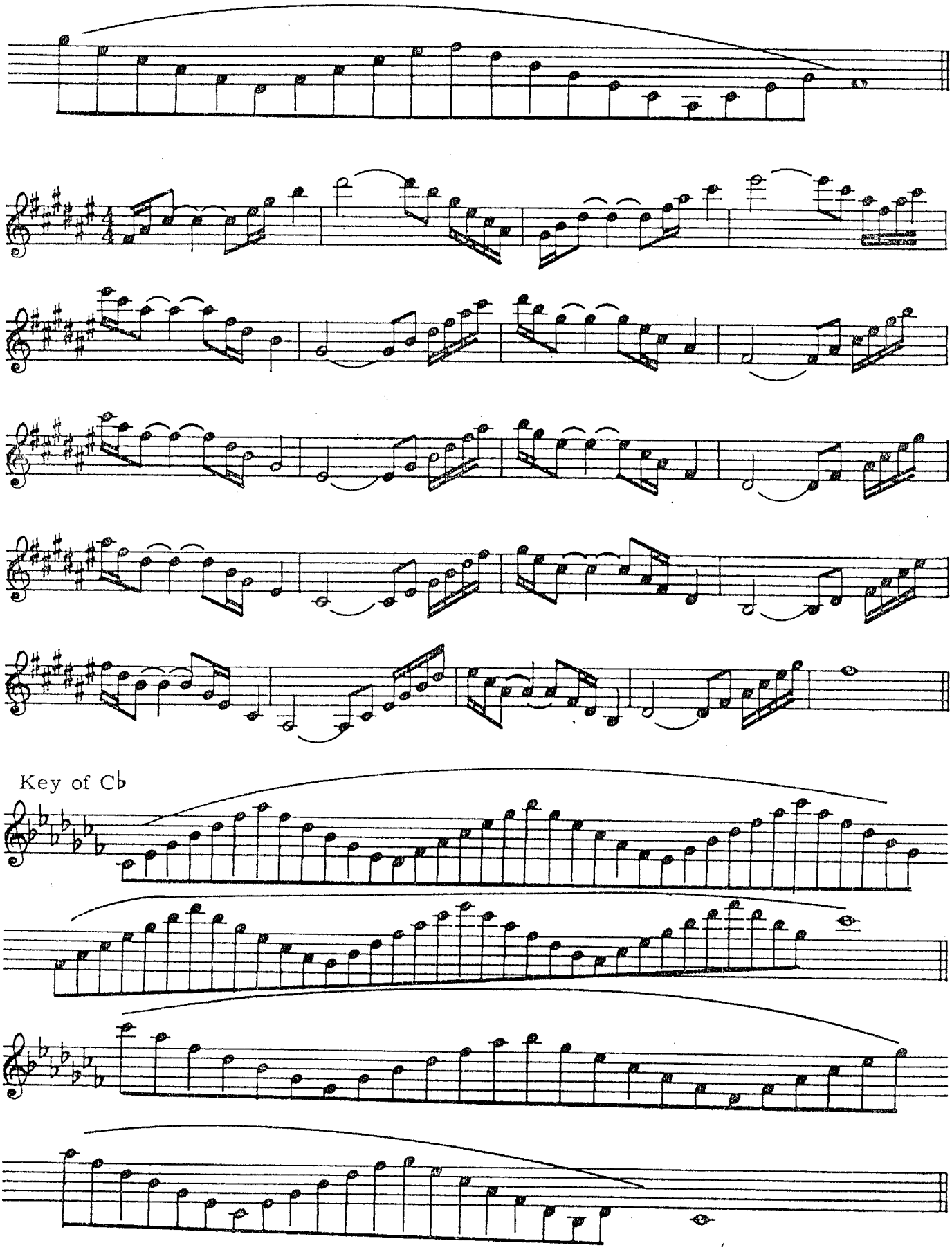






200 Key of F♯




201
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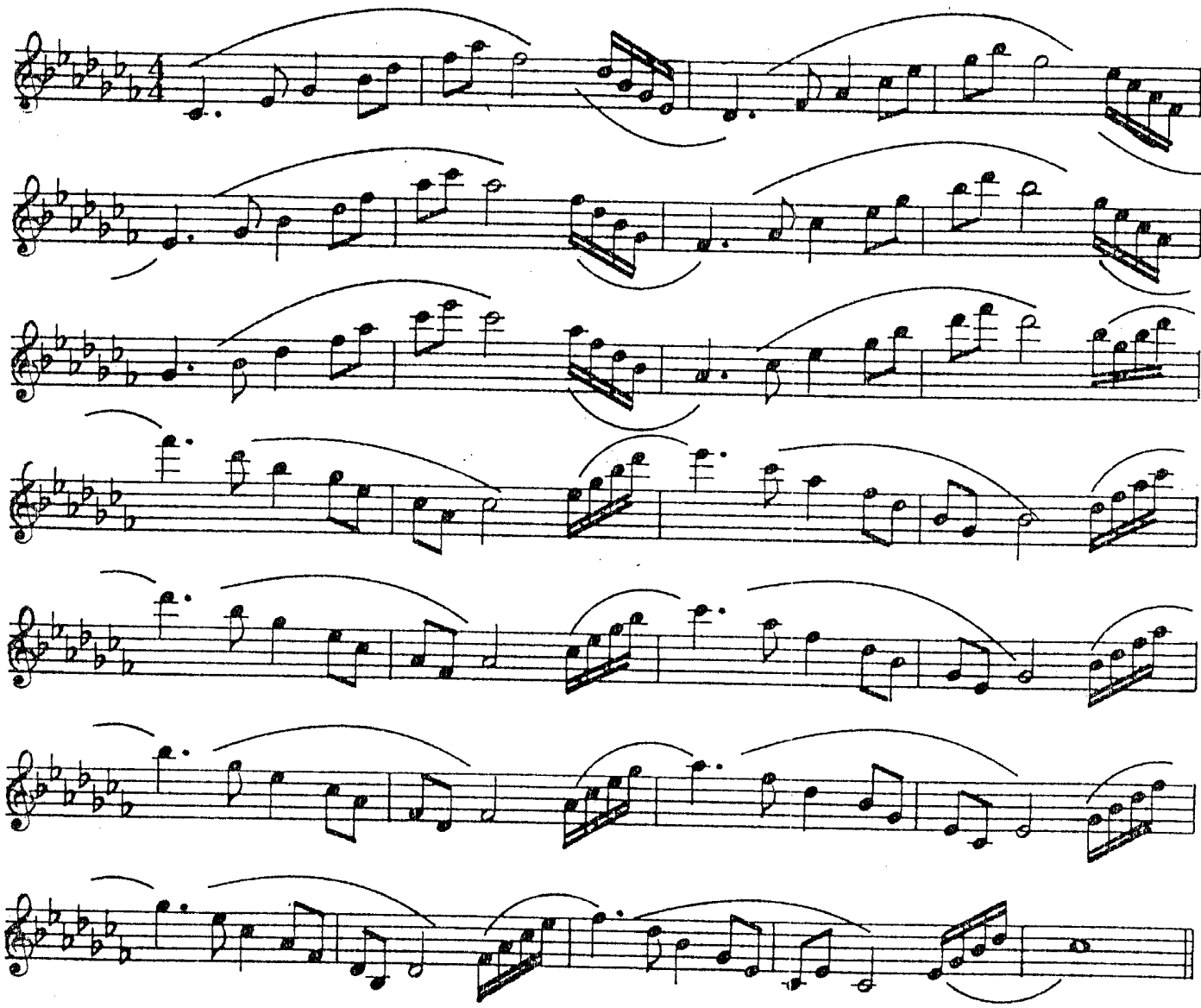
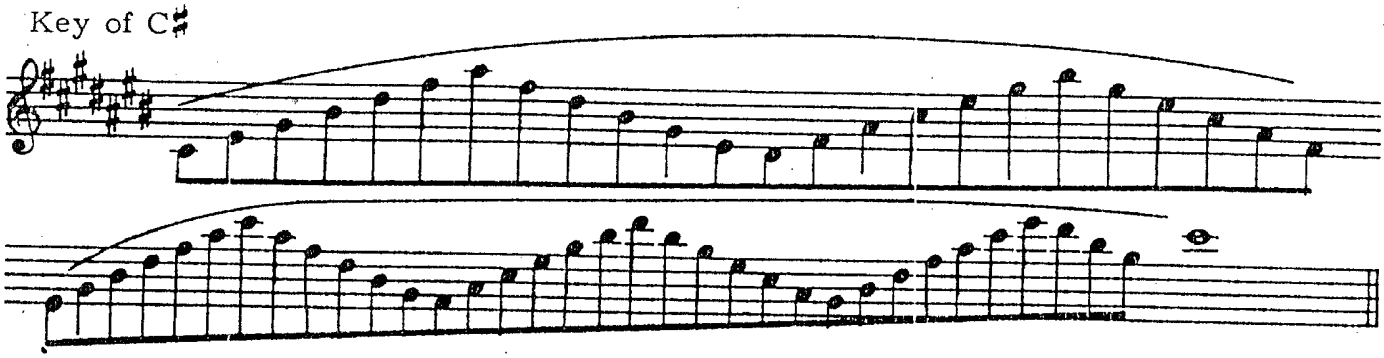
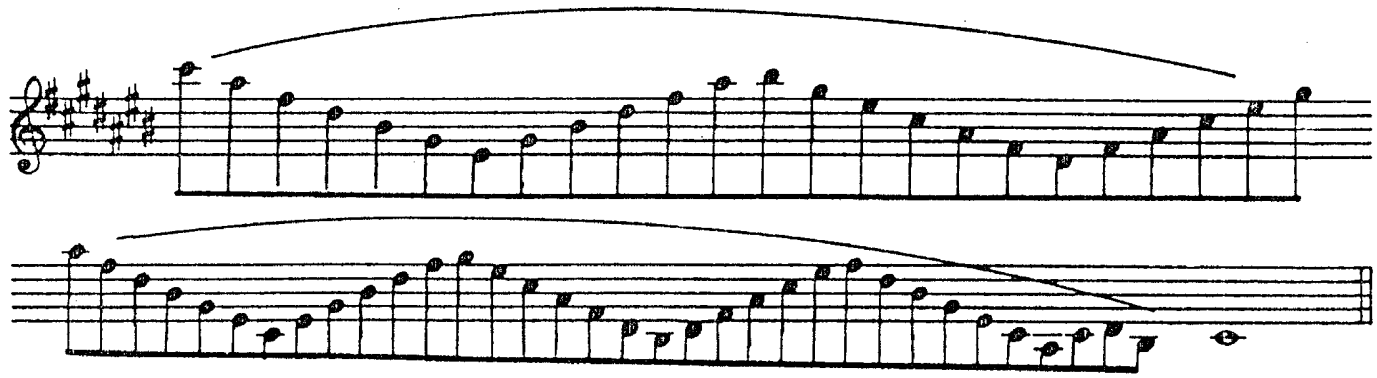
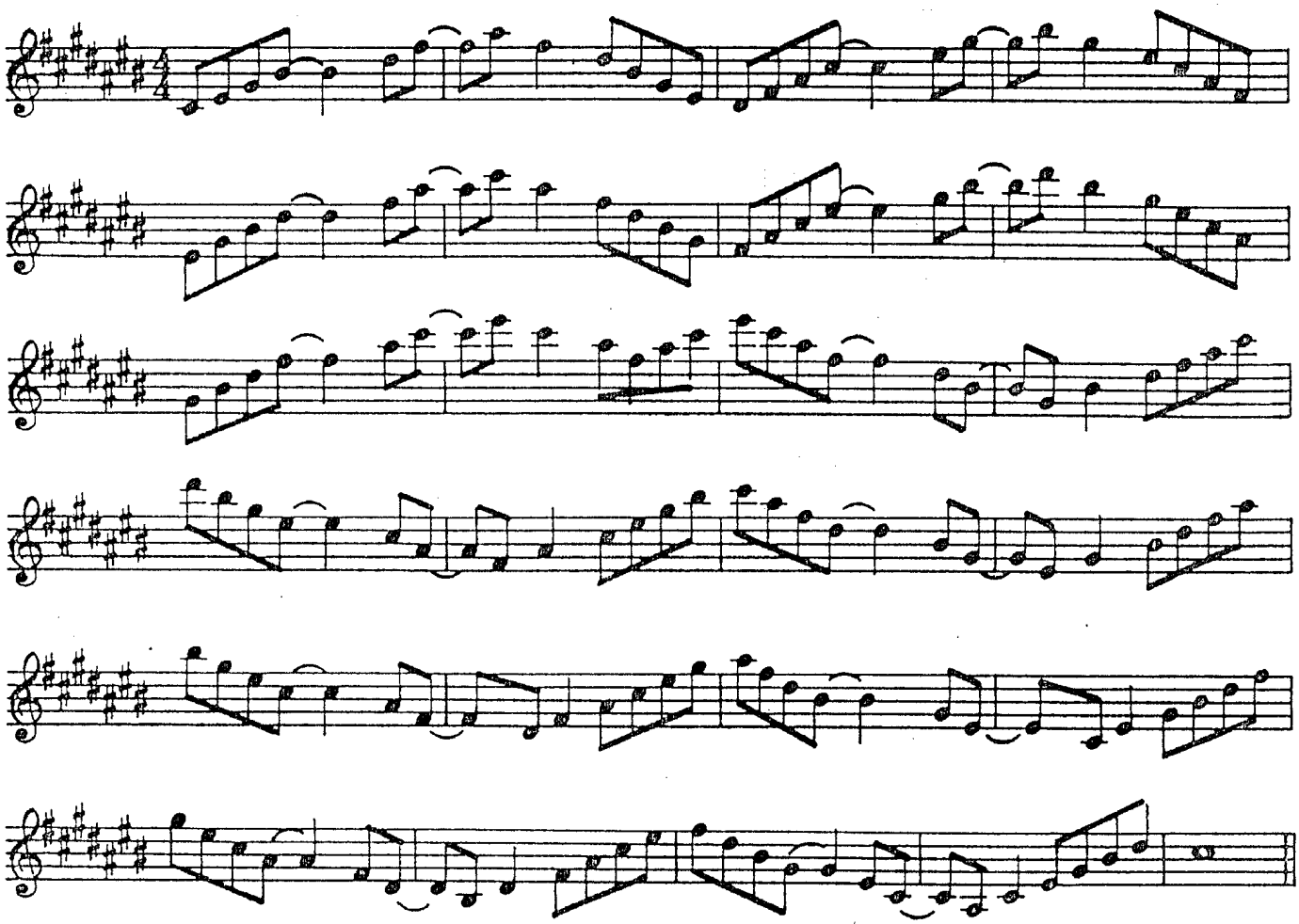


202

Key of C♯



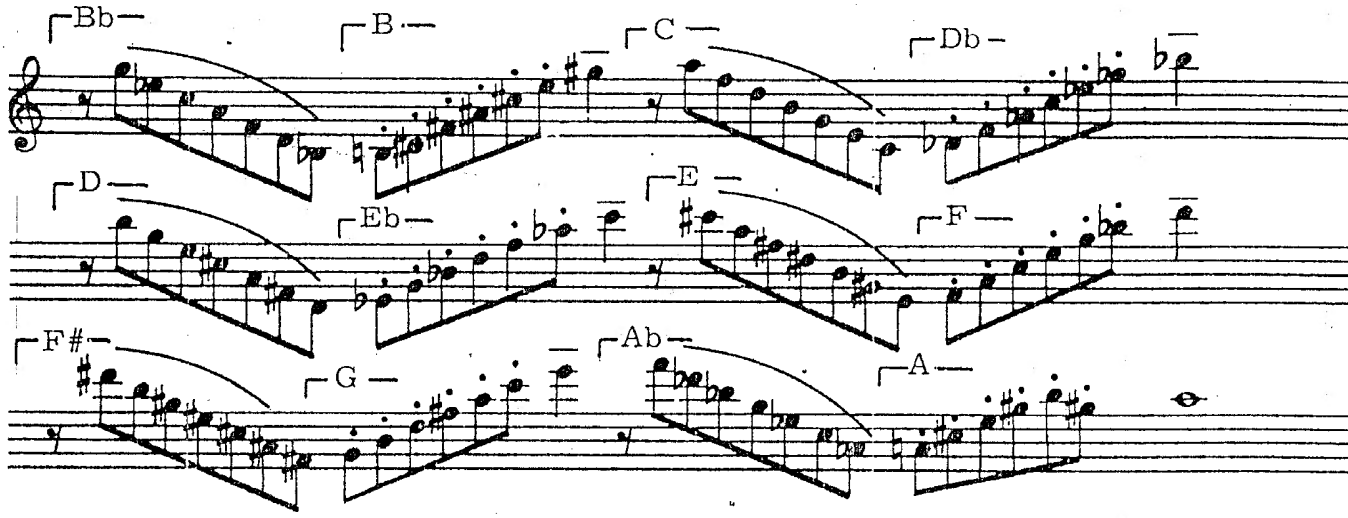




SEPTADS - POLYTONAL VARIATIONS

(see author's notes)

203



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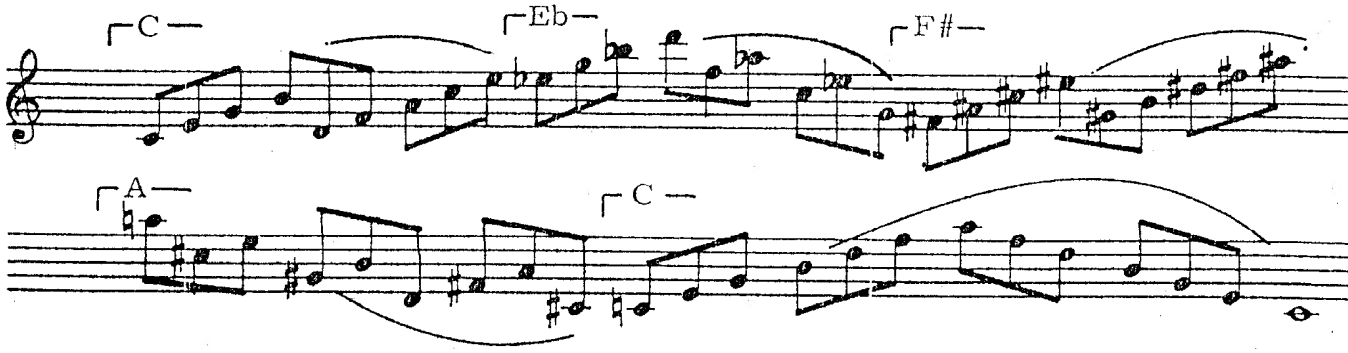

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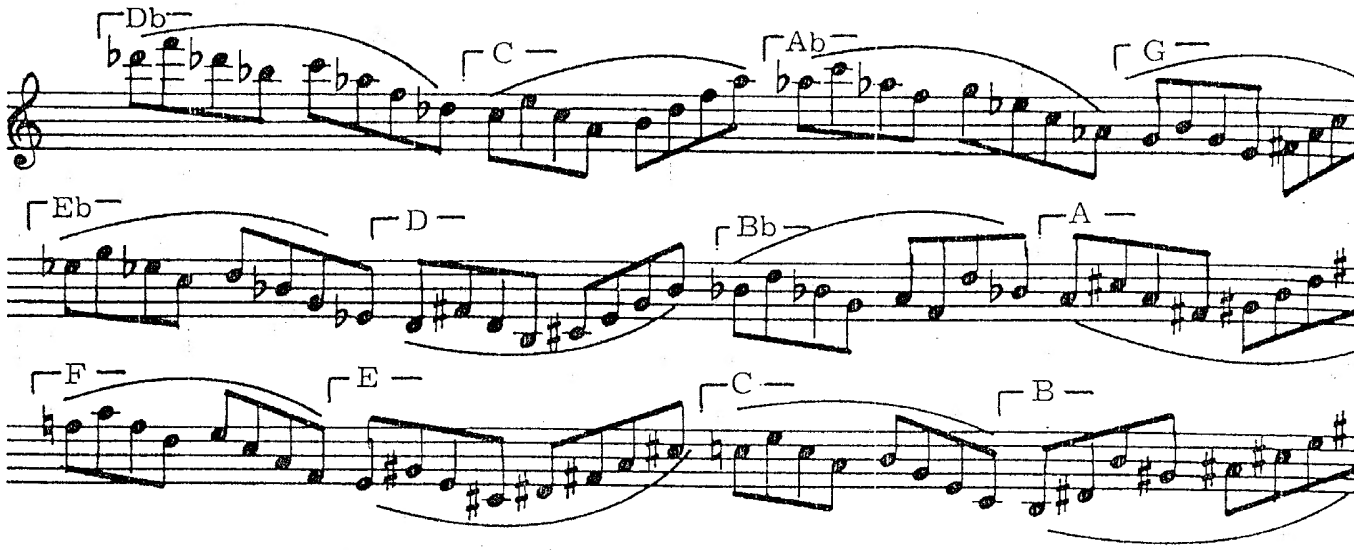

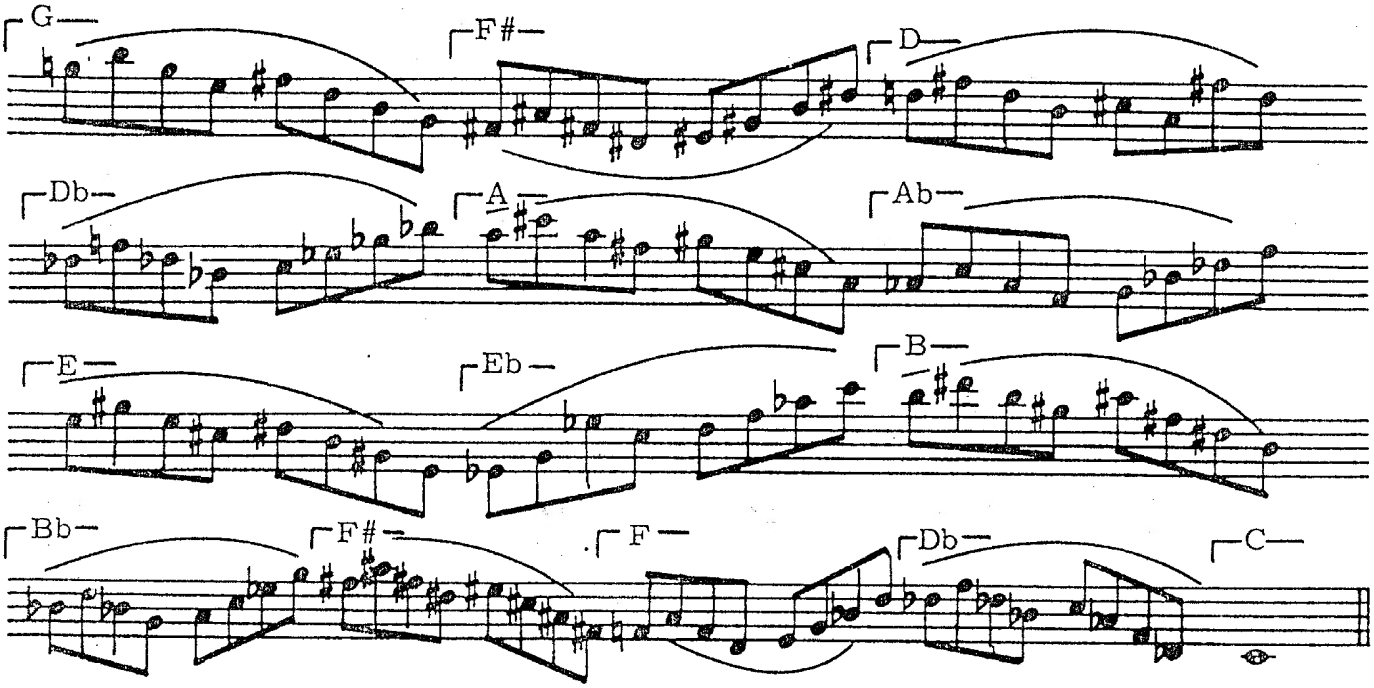

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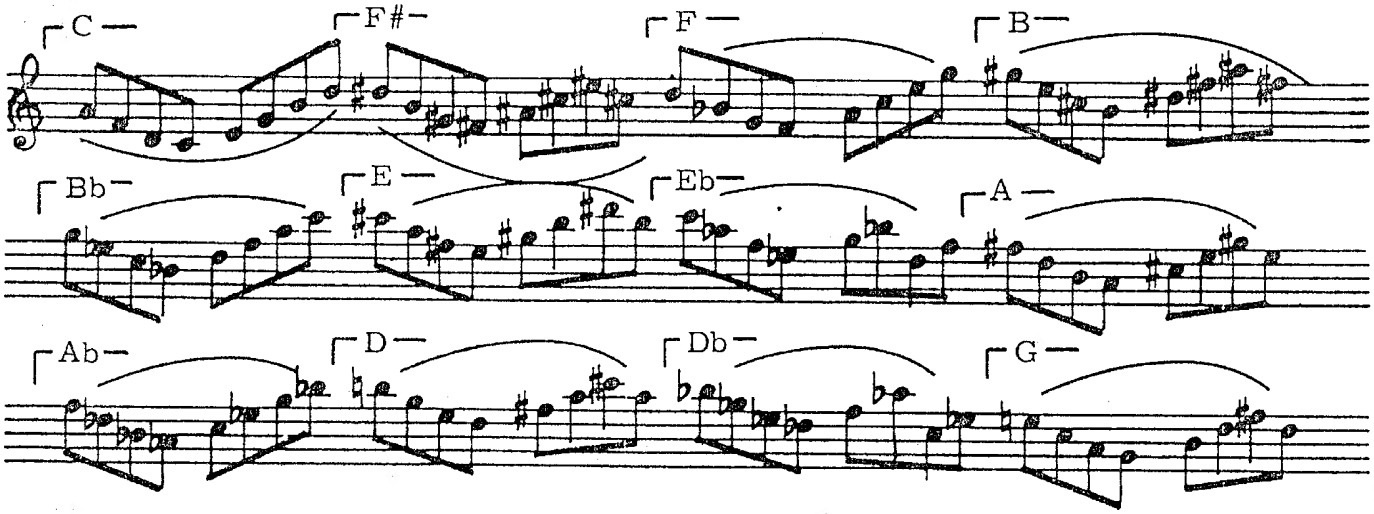

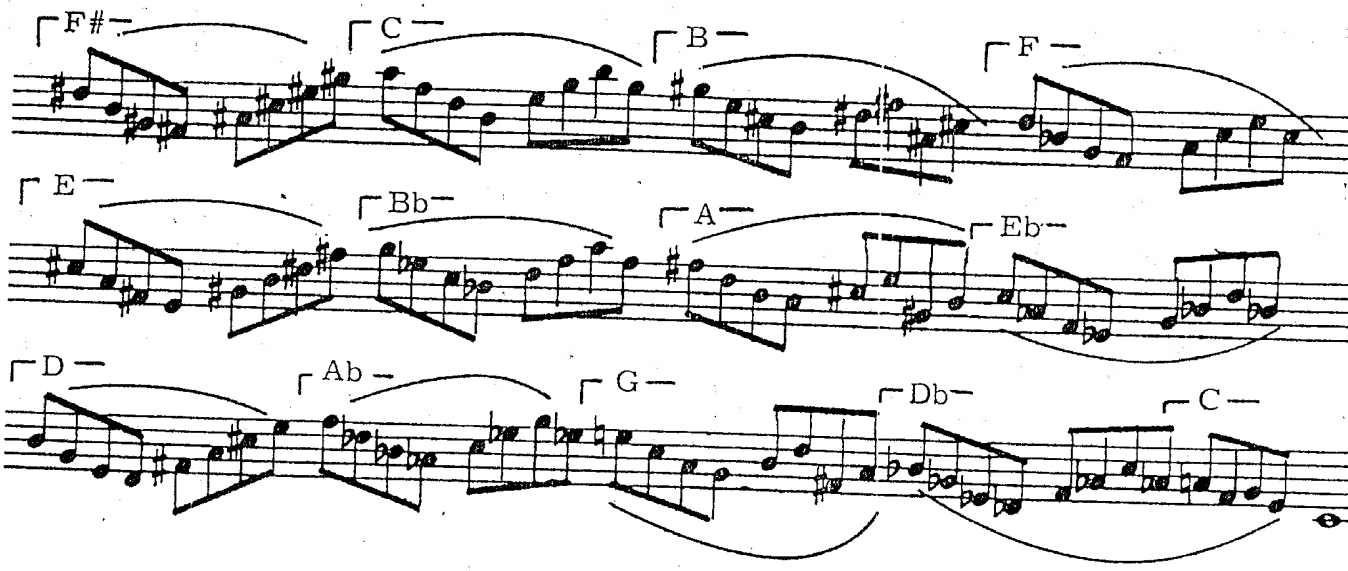

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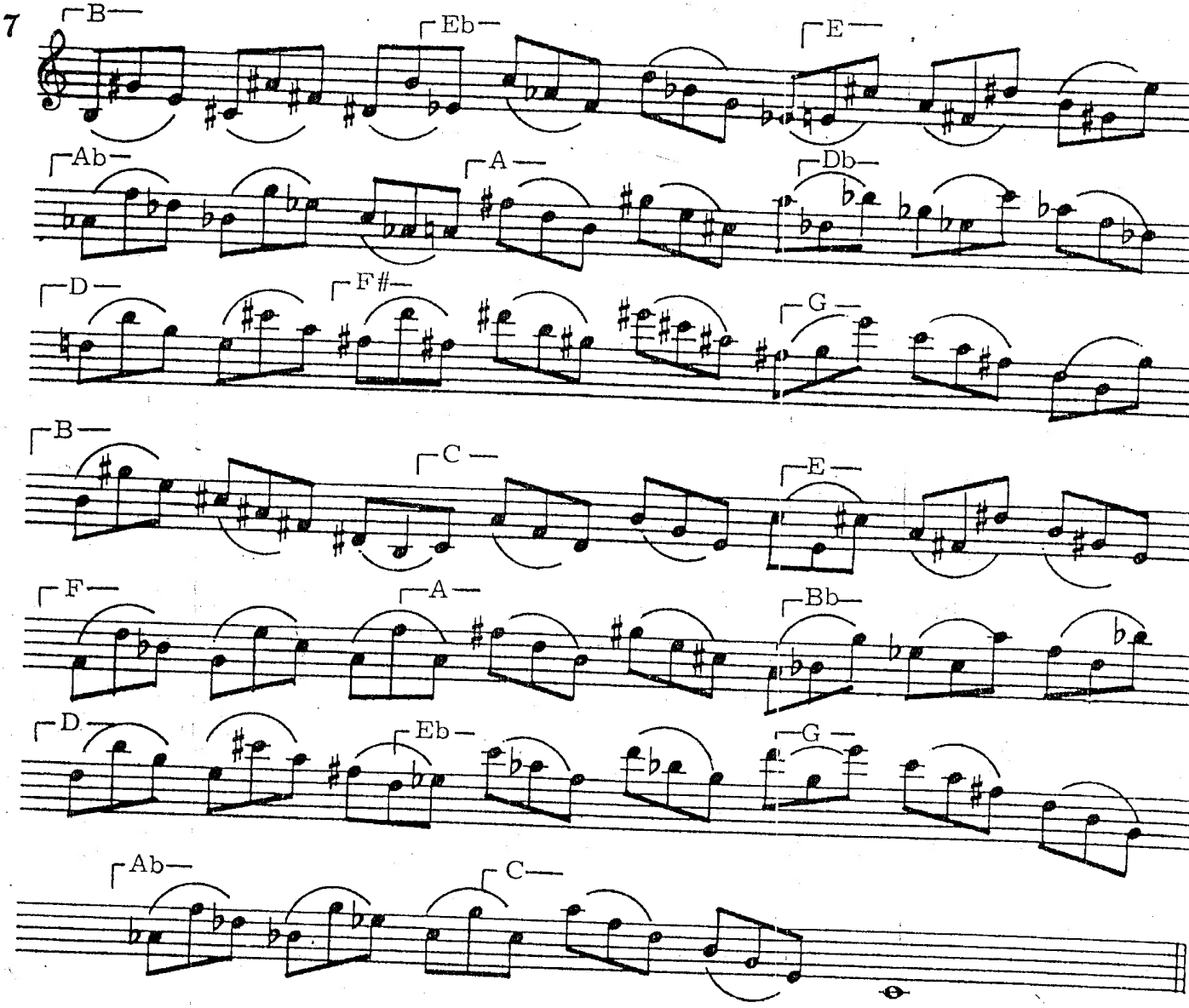

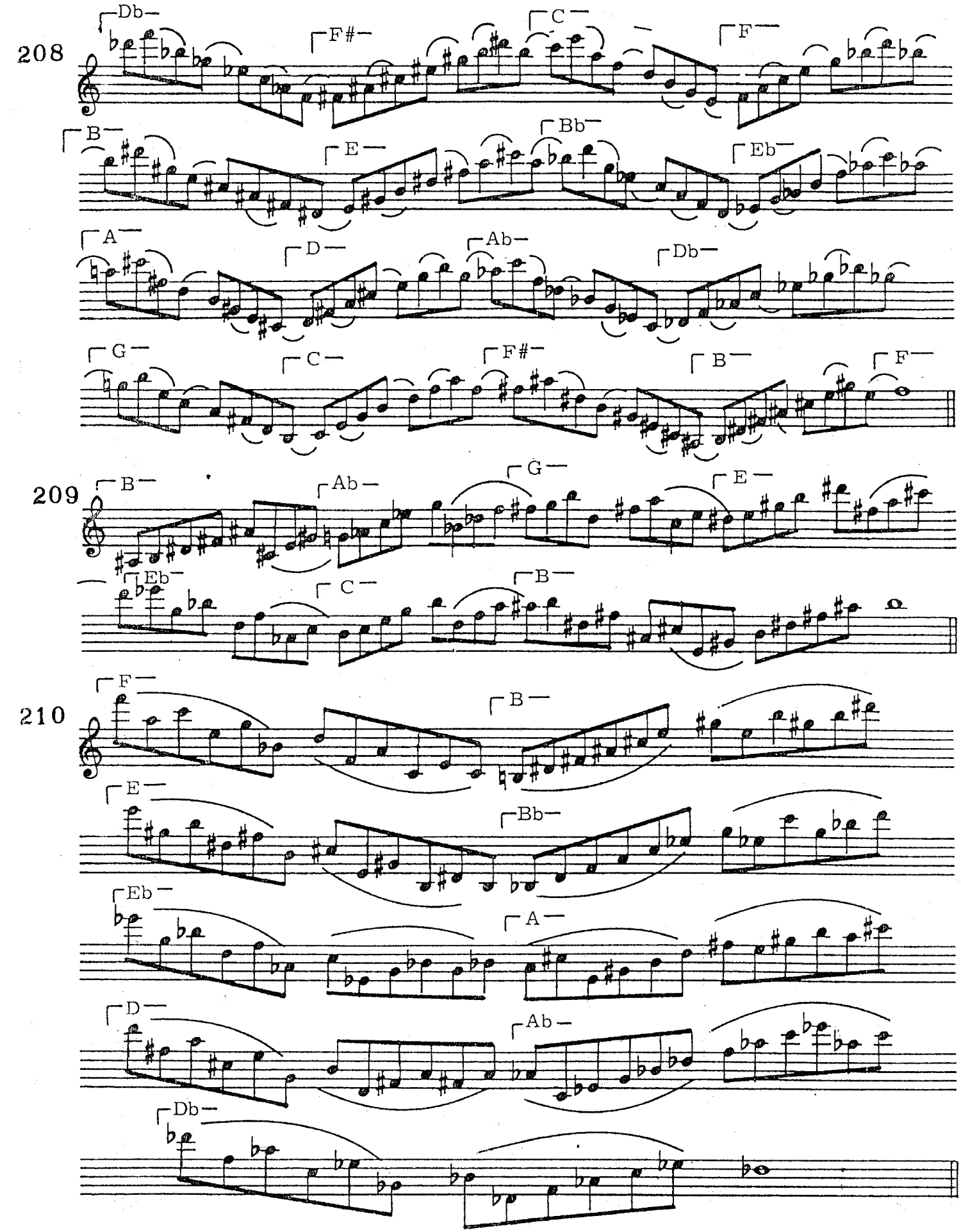
208
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